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## REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

*History of England, from the Peace of Utrecht.*  
By Lord Mahon. Vol. IV. 8vo, pp. 581.  
London, J. Murray.

THIS volume contains the history from the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, 1749, to the peace of Paris, 1762; and a general sketch of our Indian empire, from its origin to the downfall of the French power, and the surrender of Pondicherry. There is also an appendix of considerable interest.

It is written in the plain unaffected style which, to our taste, is far more congenial to historical simplicity and truth than the ornate and lofty manner which has nevertheless exalted several historians to fame. Lord Mahon's narrative, on the contrary, ranges between the elaborate of these magnificences and the dry of the old chroniclers; observing a happy medium of a very agreeable character, informing the reader, without taxing his mind to follow sublime periods and complicated ideas. In short, he that runs may read, and he that reads may readily understand.

In the early portion the rise of the Earl of Bute, and in the latter parts his influence, are prominent among the internal topics on the *tapis*; and they are temperately and impartially discussed. His introduction may serve as an example of the author:—

(1753.) "Soon after this period, however, all other persons and all other topics at Leicester House were cast into the shade by the rising and gigantic influence of John Stuart, earl of Bute. Hitherto this nobleman had not enjoyed, nor apparently even aimed at, political distinction. In private life he had borne a blameless character, having married in 1736 the only daughter of Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, an excellent wife and mother, with whom he had quietly resided at his seat of Caen Wood near London, and moderately and prudently, yet not parsimoniously, maintained a large family from a scanty income. In 1750 he had received an appointment in the household of Prince Frederick, who used frequently to say, 'Bute is a fine showy man, and would make an excellent ambassador in any court where there was no business.' But he was little noticed by the public until it was perceived that the widowed princess honoured him with her highest trust and confidence. So sudden an elevation, in a scandal-loving age, produced, as might have been foreseen, rumours by no means favourable to the fame of the princess. Such rumours in such a case are always easy to circulate, and hard to disprove. Without attaching the slightest weight to them, it must, however, be owned that the abilities of Bute were by no means such as to justify his rapid rise. He had indeed several elegant accomplishments, some taste for literature, and some knowledge of science. But he could gain no reputation either in council or debate. Proud and sensitive in his temper, he was easily elated, and as easily depressed, and ill qualified for the fierce encounters of the political arena. Like most men flushed by power unexpected and unearned, the people thought him prone to arbitrary measures as apparently the shortest road to

his objects. Besides the resentment which such tendencies, real or supposed, commonly create, he had but little skill in conciliating adherents, being, at least to his inferiors, cold, reserved, and haughty in his manners. Whatever the subject, whether grave or trifling, he was equally slow and solemn in his tone. Once, as he was speaking in the House of Lords, and as the words fell from him one by one, his kinsman, Charles Townshend, who was present, could not forbear exclaiming, 'Minute guns!'

On another public event, the execution of Admiral Byng, we find the reflections equally just:—

"On reviewing the whole of this painful transaction it appears just to acknowledge, that, notwithstanding the party insinuations of that time, the officers of the court martial were swayed only by pure and honourable motives. They judged right, as I conceive, in pronouncing that Byng did not do as much as he might have done for the relief of Minorca; they judged right in acquitting him both of treachery and cowardice. But they seem to me to err when they proceed to apply to the case of Byng the severe penalties prescribed by the 12th article of war. They confound the two ideas—neglect of duty and error of judgment. It was not from any heedless omission that the admiral had failed to pursue the French fleet, or to relieve the English garrison; it was from inferior talent and inferior energy of mind. To such deficiencies the 12th article, with its penalty of death, was clearly not intended to apply. But further still, supposing the sentence passed, it was surely no light stain on the royal prerogative, or on those who wielded it, to set at nought the unanimous recommendation of the judges. To deny the claim of mercy in such a case could scarcely be palliated even by the strongest motives of state-policy. In truth, however, all sound state-policy points in the opposite direction. Whenever a disproportionate severity is applied to an involuntary fault, the sure result, after a short interval, is to enlist public sympathy on the side of the sufferer, to change condemnation into pity, and to exalt any ordinary officer, who has acted to the best of his small abilities, into the fame of a hero and a martyr."

But higher matters suggest themselves for the few illustrations we think it necessary to select as specimens and recommendations of this sterling production; and we pass to the accession of George III., and what Lord Mahon says *apropos* to that epoch:—

"George the Third, whose reign, including the years of regency, proved to be the longest and the most eventful in the English annals, was at the time of his accession twenty-two years of age. His figure was tall and strongly built; his countenance open and engaging. A heartfelt and unaffected Christian piety formed the foundation of his character. In the private and domestic virtues, few men, and certainly no monarch, ever excelled him. His education having been neglected by his mother and mismanaged by his governors, his range of reading was not extensive, nor his taste within that range always happy. 'Was there ever,' cried he to Miss Burney, 'such stuff as great part of

Shakespeare?—only one must not say so! What! is there not sad stuff?—What?—what?' But his manner in conversation did great injustice to his own endowments. His rapid utterance and frequent reiteration of trivial phrases,—his unceasing 'What! what!' and 'Hey! hey!'—gave him an aspect of shallowness to mere superficial observers, and obscured (literary subjects apart) the clear good sense, the sterling judgment within. Thus also his own style in writing was not always strictly grammatical, but always earnest, plain, and to the point. To the exalted duties of his station he devoted himself with conscientious and constant attention. The more the private papers of his reign come to light, the more it will appear how closely, during fifty years, he superintended all the movements of the great political machine. At all times, and under all vicissitudes, whether in victory or in disaster, whether counselled by ministers of his own choice or in the hands of a party he abhorred, he was most truly and emphatically an honest man. 'Though none of my ministers stand by me, I will not truckle,' was his saying on one occasion, and his sentiment on all. I shall not deny that his prepossessions for or against any statesman were mostly too strong and difficult to conquer, nor that his firmness sometimes hardened into obstinacy. The earlier years of his reign were not free from errors of conduct, or intervals of consequent unpopularity; but the longer he lived, and the better he was understood, the more his subjects felt how closely his general views and principles, his tastes and habits, were in accordance with their own. And thus, in the latter half at least of his reign, after he had shaken off the sway of the northern favourite—the report of that sway which so long survived its reality,—the taint of the factions which Junius adorned and envenomed,—and the odium of the North American contest,—no monarch, not Henri Quatre, not Maria Theresa, not even our own Elizabeth, were ever more deeply rooted in the hearts of the people that they ruled. How strong and real became the sympathy felt for his health, and the confidence reposed in his integrity! How many millions were looking up to him with a feeling scarcely short of filial! Who that beheld, even in childhood, can forget (it is one of my own childhood's earliest and not least welcome recollections) the warm and enthusiastic burst of loyal affection with which the whole nation, without distinction of party, hailed the jubilee—the fiftieth anniversary of the accession of him whom every tongue, in homely but heartfelt language, then proclaimed as 'the good old king!' That his majesty's predilection for the Earl of Bute was an error, I have already acknowledged. It is undoubtedly the part of a wise sovereign on his accession to dismiss any partiality not founded on the public service. Yet still it should be borne in mind that this partiality of George the Third had its root in considerable virtues. Affection and duty to his parent, esteem for those whom she mainly trusted, regard for the servants who had faithfully adhered to his father and himself in their days of court disfavour, return for professions of unbounded attachment, the kind-

ness of long-continued intimacy, the generous warmth of friendship and of youth,—such feelings might have bound even a greater king than George the Third to even a much worse favourite than Bute."

A good *bon-mot* is recorded at this time, when the struggle for ascendancy lay between Lord Bute, the Duke of Newcastle, and Mr. Pitt; for "it was now become the question, according to a lady's jest at the time, what the king should burn in his chamber, whether Scotch-coal, Newcastle-coal, or Pit-coal!"

The following note is also worth preserving: "The parliament, which had been prorogued for a few days on account of the demise of the crown, was on the 18th of November opened by the king. Never, it was remarked, had there been greater crowds at such a ceremony, nor louder acclamations. The royal speech had been drawn up by Lord Hardwicke, and revised by Pitt; but when complete, his majesty is said to have added with his own hand a paragraph as follows: 'Born and educated in this country, I glory in the name of Briton; and the peculiar happiness of my life will ever consist in promoting the welfare of a people whose loyalty and warm attachment to me I consider as the greatest and most permanent security of my throne.' Such cordial language met with no less cordial responses from both houses. 'What a lustre,' exclaim the lords, 'doth it cast upon the name of Briton, when you, sir, are pleased to esteem it among your glories!'—'We acknowledge,' say the commons, 'with the liveliest sentiments of duty, gratitude, and exultation of mind, these most affecting and animating words.'—Nevertheless, these words did not wholly escape animadversion out of doors; some captious critics contended that they implied, and were intended to imply, a censure against the late reign. I have heard it related, but on no very clear or certain authority, that the king had in the first place written the word 'Englishman,' and that Lord Bute altered it to 'Briton.'"

The estimate of Queen Charlotte may fitly be quoted as a companion to the portrait of her royal spouse; it seems equally faithful and correct:—

"On the 8th of July (1761) an extraordinary privy-council was held; all the members in or near town having been summoned, without distinction of office or of party, to meet, as was declared, 'on the most urgent and important business.' The object, it was concluded on all sides (so carefully had the secret been kept) was, to ratify or reject the treaty with France. It proved—to declare a queen. His majesty announced to the council his intended marriage with Charlotte, second sister of the Duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, a house of ancient lineage, and of tried Protestant principles. Of the princess herself, who was scarcely seventeen, and not remarkable for beauty, little as yet was or could be known. On one occasion, however, she had manifested a sense and spirit beyond her years. When the territories of her cousin, the Duke of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, had been entered and laid waste by the King of Prussia's troops, she had addressed a letter to that monarch, entreating his forbearance. Frederick was so well pleased with this firm yet modest appeal as to send it over to George the Second, and it is said to have formed one of the motives for the choice of George the Third.\* The character of this princess in after

life—as queen consort of England for fifty-seven years—confirmed the soundness of the judgment which had raised her to that rank. An ever-present yet unostentatious piety,—to the king an affectionate reverence,—to her children an unremitting care,—prudence, economy, good sense, and good temper,—were amongst her excellent qualities. Pure and above all reproach in her own domestic life, she knew how to enforce at her court the virtues, or, at the very least, the semblance of the virtues, which she practised. To no other woman, probably, had the cause of good morals in England ever owed so deep an obligation. How pleasing the picture of one of her Sunday forenoons, as drawn by one of her attendants [Madame D'Arblay, 1786]! 'This morning, before church, as I entered her majesty's dressing-room, I found her reading aloud some religious book, but I could not discover what, to the three eldest princesses. . . . I did not execute my task very expeditiously, for I was glad of this opportunity of witnessing the maternal piety with which she enforced, in voice and expression, every sentence that contained any lesson that might be useful to her royal daughters. She reads extremely well; with great force, clearness, and meaning.' Such, indeed, were her majesty's domestic habits and simplicity of tastes,—as also her royal consort's,—that they bordered on a fault: they led both her and him to prefer a life of rural seclusion, with few attendants, and no visitors,—as though the king had been really what he was sometimes nicknamed, 'Farmer George,'—as though royal state were not among the duties and obligations of a royal station! To this defect—if so we are to term it—of Queen Charlotte, I may add, that, excepting her own skill upon the harpsichord, she had no taste or knowledge of the arts; that her reading was not remarkable for its range, nor her manner for its grace. Yet how slight and trivial appear these objections when weighed against the undeviating virtues, the long and truly venerable career, of this illustrious lady!"

The references to Horace Walpole, Dodington, the Chatham Correspondence, Lord Chesterfield's Letters, Bedford Correspondence, and other publications from contemporary writers, shew how much history is indebted to such data, and is perhaps the best eulogium that can be pronounced on their usefulness. A single passage in a private document is often enough to destroy a whole historical hypothesis; and the more we have of such works, the more likely we shall be to distinguish the true from the false. Lord Mahon has availed himself ably of these lights. But we must now transcribe the forcible remarks with which he terminates his Indian sketch—remarks which are singularly applicable at this moment:—

"From the precarious tenure of some two or three petty forts—from the mere Mahraditch of Calcutta, or the 'bound-hedge' of Madras—our empire has spread far and wide; from Ceylon to Gujerat—from the snows of the Himalaya to the sea-line of the Sunderbunds—along the loftiest mountains and the widest plains in the known world. In India at this moment the number of our subjects and dependents is in all probability greater than Alexander, than Augustus, than Charlemagne, than

my country's ruin, to deplore the evils of war, and to wish with all my soul for the return of peace. You, sir, will perhaps think that I ought rather to practise myself in the arts of pleasing, or in my household affairs. But be this as it may, my heart feels so much for these poor unhappy people that it cannot withhold a pressing entreaty in their behalf.—A translation (but not quite accurate) of the whole letter is given in the 'Annual Register,' 1761, part I. p. 207."

Napoleon, ever knew. And if that vast people be as yet low in the scale of nations—long enslaved, and still debased by a succession of tyrannies, and led astray by foul superstitions and revolting rites—their depression gives them only the stronger claim on our sympathy and care. Never did a government stand more nearly in the parental relation to its subjects than the English government of India. The English are as much superior to the Hindoos—not in natural gifts, but in training, in knowledge, and in principles—as a parent is superior to a child. God grant that, as we hold a parent's place, we may fulfil a parent's duty,—not merely to command and direct, but to enlighten and reform! For many years, however, we did not act fully on these maxims, and our course in India, though far above any Asiatic, was yet below the European rules of right. Surely it behoves our chief statesmen, of whatever party, to take to heart the awful responsibility which this state of things devolves upon them,—to weigh well, and with scrupulous attention, every new appointment made, not only in India itself, but in the Indian department at home. Let them be assured that even the humblest of these appointments, if unwisely made, may become directly or indirectly the cause of suffering to unprotected millions, which are often too timid for complaint, or too distant for redress. To these millions let us prove that we have higher objects than additions of territory or accumulations of wealth. Let us aim at the overthrow of the idol-temples, not rashly, not through violence and persecution, but by affording means to know the truth,—their overthrow by the hands of their own worshippers, converted and reclaimed. Let us cast aside for ever the base, the miserable fear, lest the Hindoos, as they approach our level of civilisation, may become less patient of our sway. It is, I trust, reserved for British councils in the coming age to extend even much further the work auspiciously begun of good government in India, and to give even to the meanest peasant of that land fresh reason to bless God, in the fulness of his heart, that his lot is cast beneath the great company, instead of the rajahs and sultans of former days!"

The appendix is enriched with extracts from the celebrated Stuart Papers, which we fear will not be edited in our time; and therefore we are the more gratified by these fragments. Here is a remarkable example:—

"The Pretender to Prince Charles.

"Rome, Dec. 30, 1750.

"To-morrow you end your 30th year. May you see many more than double that number, and happier ones than those you have already past! The hardships you have gone through, and do perhaps still undergo, are not small, and it is to be hoped they will contribute at last to what they are chiefly directed. But in the darkness you keep me, as to all that relates to you, I can pray and wish, but I can neither judge nor advise, except on one single article, which is so obvious and so important that I should think every body who really wishes you well, should be of the same opinion in that respect, and that is, your securing the succession of our family by marrying. I cannot think you so selfish as to have yourself only in view in all you suffer. The happiness of our country must undoubtedly be your motive, and by consequence you would never surely restrict that happiness to your own life only, but endeavour to perpetuate it by a succession of lawful kings, who may have no other interests but those of our country. Your giving lawful

\* The original German may be seen in Preuss ('Lebens-Geschichte,' vol. ii. p. 186). 'I know, sir,' she says, 'that in this vicious and subtilising age I may be laughed at for allowing my heart to mourn

heirs to the crown will not only be a constant security to your own person, but it will make you more considered and respected abroad, and will undoubtedly give new life and vigour to the cause and your friends, whose zeal can never be so warm when all their hopes are centred in you alone. Had you entered into the view I formerly gave you, you had been probably at this time the father of a family, with a wife whom it would not have been beneath you to have married, had you been in England. But it is useless to look backward; and what gives me the greatest concern in all this is, that you have put yourself in a situation and way of living which renders your marrying any body absolutely impracticable. This, as long as it lasts, must appear extraordinary and singular to persons of reflection and sense, because the motives and object of your marrying are obvious to all, and those of your pursuing your present conduct and scheme, whatever they may be, can be only known to such as are the authors and promoters of them. For my part, I can have no other view but your real good and advantage; and I am so much convinced of the necessity of your marrying, that I could almost say that I would rather see you married to a private gentleman than that you should not be it at all; and therefore I cannot but recommend earnestly to you to think seriously on the matter, and, as you cannot now hope to make a marriage suitable to yourself, to endeavour to make one that may be at least as little unequal as possible; for I can only, on this occasion, exhort you in general, since I cannot think of any particular person to propose to you who might be any ways proper, and at the same time willing to marry you. If this letter has the same fate with many others I have writ to you, I might have saved myself the trouble of writing it; but whatever reception it may meet with, or impression it may make, I shall still have the comfort of having acquitted myself of the duty of a father, in telling you what I really think for your good, and of shewing you, at the same time, that no behaviour of yours can alter the warm concern I shall ever take in all that relates to you, whom I beseech God to bless, protect, and prosper, and direct upon all occasions.

JAMES R."

Another:—

"Prince Charles (under the name of John Douglas) to Earl Marischal.

"May 1754.

"You are the only friend that I know of, this side of the water. My misfortunes are so great that they render me really quite incapable of supporting the impertinences of low people. However, I am so much a countryman as to lay aside any personal piques, *pro re nata*; but I do not think a prince can. He (the prince), I am persuaded, will be able to shew himself in his true light one day. My heart is broke enough without that you should finish it; your expressions are so strong without saying where. I am obliged here to let you see clear at least in one article. Any one whosever that has told you I gave such a message to England as you mention, has told you a d— lie. God forgive them! I would not do the least hurt to my greatest enemy, were he in my power, much less to any one that professes to be mine.—For ever yours,

"J. DOUGLAS."

Another curious document is the marginal notes of Frederick II. on reports of his cabinet ministers, and eminently illustrative of his character. We cannot resist a few examples.

"Petition from Simon, merchant and commercial counsellor (*Commerzien Rath*) at Stettin, to be allowed to purchase the estate of Krautzen for 40,000 dollars.

Petition from the town of Frankfort-on-Oder, against the quartering of troops upon them.

Petition from the stocking-weaver Esche, for the sum of 3200 dollars, due to him on Saxon revenue bonds.

Petition from the inhabitants of Potsdam, to assist them in paying a contribution of 32,000 dollars levied by the Austrians.

Petition from the *Kammerherr* Baron von Müller, for leave to visit the baths at Aix-la-Chapelle.

Renewed petition from Baron von Müller for leave to visit the baths.

Petition from Countess Paradis, that her son, now in the Bavarian army, may receive a commission in the Prussian, with the view that the stricter discipline may wean him from his drunken habits.

Petition from the Jew Meyer Benjamin, at Magdeburg, for admission to equal privileges with Christian tradesmen.

Petition from *Geheimer Rath* von Brandt for the payment of his account—postage of letters amounting to 113 dollars.

Petition from *Landrath* von Wobeser, for compensation on account of the burning of his house and other losses he suffered at the bombardment of Custrin.

Petition from the *ober-auditor* G. at Berlin, complaining of the appointment of *ober-auditor* Reinecke as *general-auditor*, and stating his own claims as

"In the king's own writing.

"Forty thousand dollars invested in commerce will bring in 8 per cent, in landed property only 4. So this man does not understand his own business. A cobbler should continue a cobbler; a merchant should think of his trade, and not of buying estates.

Why it cannot be otherwise. Do they think that I can put the regiment into my pocket? But the barracks shall be rebuilt.

*Paciencia!*

Let them look to paying their own debts. I shall not give that rascally rabble a single *groschen*.

What would he do there? He would gamble away the little money he has left, and come back like a beggar.

Let him go to the devil!

I look out for good officers, but the deson- bauched ones I send packing. Such people, of whatever rank, I think no acquisition to my service.

Let the Jew immediately take himself away from Magdeburg, or the Commandant shall kick him out.

I shall send him no money to help his writing. He already writes his fingers off. Let him write me what is really needful, and not so much useless stuff that gives me no information.

At the day of judgment every man will receive again whatever he has lost in this life.

I have in my stable a parcel of old mules, who have served me a long while, but I have not yet found any of them apply to be made superintendents of the

senior of all the stable. *ober-auditors*, and as having served the state for thirty years.

Petition from Kanter, a bookseller at Königsberg, for the title of *commerzien rath*, commercial counsellor.

Petition from the wine-merchant Kiehn at Berlin, for compensation on account of 82 hogsheads of wine, which the Russians carried off during their last invasion."

And with these extracts we conclude, only mentioning an honourable explanation relative to the Duke of Bedford and the changes in 1748, as a sample of the candour and right feeling which distinguishes all Lord Mahon's History.

*Coningsby; or, the New Generation.* By B. Disraeli, Esq., M.P., author of "Contarini Fleming." 3 vols. H. Colburn.

This is a presumptuous and clever work. It possesses many of the elements calculated to excite public attention, and is accordingly destined for extensive popularity. It is bitterly personal, satirical, political, and is besides the manifesto of Young England. It treats of aristocrats lately dead or still living, of ministers and opposition, of members of parliament of all opinions, of cotton lords, actresses, demireps, and others belonging to the world of fashion. And if of itself this goodly show were not enough to challenge notice, the literary and oratorical character of its author would surely command that distinction; and the blazon of his fame during the week by so powerful a trumpet as the *Times* newspaper, would only tend to expedite and complete his notoriety. Indeed, it is hardly possible to peruse that journal without feeling that there is more than a mere sympathy between the writer of *Coningsby* and the writer of some of its leading articles (see the first of these on Thursday last, and p. 154, vol. i. of *Coningsby*); and that the mutuality of praises and objects is founded on a stricter alliance or connexion than meets the indifferent eye. But be this as it may, the voice of Young England, like the vote of the junior member of a court-martial, is here bold in enunciating its opinions. It asserts the privilege of youth to expand the cramped ideas of age; and by enthusiasm and generous principles, to supplant cold caution and mistaken wisdom. A sort of universalism of virtue and purity, productive of nothing but content and happiness, is to be the aim of the new generation; and the sooner the "old fellows" sink into oblivion the better. In the sense, though not in the language of Lear, they are admonished that "they should not have been old before they had been wise;" and now the time is come when they must and ought to be "as unregarded age in corners thrown." The *naïveté* with which this doctrine is enunciated creates, we hear, considerable merriment at the Carlton Club,—where, truly, most things are laughed at, which do not nearly affect themselves, by men enjoying the salt of the earth. We are not sure that even the Mr. Rigby of the novel (not to be mistaken for a vengeful personation of Mr. Wilson Croker) will not laugh at his portrait; and, having slashed so many with his own pen, and Mr. Disraeli, perhaps, among the rest, eat his mutton with the same ap-

Bookseller—there is a truly honourable title!

Why not compensation also for what he lost at the deluge? His cellars were then no doubt under water."



petite as if he had not been "slated" and denounced, with unsparring asperity, throughout these three volumes. As for the author, whether he has made a bed of roses, or roused a hornet's nest, he does not seem to care; and he deserves, at least, the credit of courage for putting his name to the literary muck he has run at all parties, and not a few powerful individuals. Among his leading personages (there is hardly a veil thrown over them) we must at once recognise the late Marquis of Hertford (Lord Monmouth), the amiable Duke of Rutland (Beaumont), Lord J. Manners (Henry Sidney), Lord Lonsdale (Eskdale), Theodore Hook (Lucian Gay); and others well known by their connexions with these, and by the cast of their parts in this drama.

With as wonderful impartiality as the *Tale of Atray*, we have Tory, Conservative, Whig, and Radical shewn up to the utmost of the author's talent, unrestrained by any diffidence as to the infallibility of his estimates. What was considered to be the party to which he was attached he treats with the greatest contumely; is less severe upon the Whigs, eulogises Lord John Russell, and warmly pleads the cause and exalts the importance of the Jewish nation. Such is the outline of this work; and in honour of its audacity we shall pull a few examples from the page. First—

*The Duke of Wellington* "has ever been the votary of circumstances. He cares little for causes. He watches events rather than seeks to produce them. It is a characteristic of the military mind. Rapid combinations, the result of a quick, vigilant, and comprehensive glance, are generally triumphant in the field: but in civil affairs, where results are not immediate; in diplomacy and in the management of deliberative assemblies, where there is much intervening time and many counteracting causes; this velocity of decision, this fitful and precipitate action, is often productive of considerable embarrassment, and sometimes of terrible discomfiture. It is remarkable that men celebrated for military prudence are often found to be headstrong statesmen. A great general in civil life is frequently and strangely the creature of impulse; influenced in his political movements by the last snatch of information, and often the creature of the last aid-de-camp who has his ear."

*Sir R. Peel and the Tory party.*—"It had been the misfortune of this eminent gentleman when he first entered public life, to become identified with a political connexion, which having arrogated to itself the name of an illustrious historical party, pursued a policy, which was either founded on no principle whatever, or on principles exactly contrary to those which had always guided the conduct of the great Tory leaders. The chief members of this official confederacy were men distinguished by none of the conspicuous qualities of statesmen. They had none of the divine gifts that govern senates and guide councils. They were not orators; they were not men of deep thought or happy resource, or of penetrative and sagacious minds. Their political ken was essentially dull and contracted. They expended some energy in obtaining a defective blundering acquaintance with foreign affairs; they knew as little of the real state of their own country as savages of an approaching eclipse. This factious league had shuffled themselves into power by clinging to the skirts of a great minister, the last of Tory statesmen; but who, in the unparalleled and confounding emergencies of his latter years, has been forced, unfortunately for England, to relinquish Toryism. His successors inherited all his errors without

the latent genius, which in him might have still rallied and extricated him from the consequences of his disasters. His successors did not merely inherit his errors; they exaggerated, they caricatured them. They rode into power on a spring-tide of all the rampant prejudices and rancorous passions of their time. From the king to the boor their policy was a mere pandering to public ignorance. Impudently usurping the name of that party of which nationality, and therefore universality, is the essence, these pseudo-Tories made exclusion the principle of their political constitution, and restriction the genius of their commercial code."

"But the settlement of Europe by the pseudo-Tories was the dictate of inspiration compared with their settlement of England. The peace of Paris found the government of this country in the hands of a body of men, of whom it is no exaggeration to say, that they were ignorant of every principle of every branch of political science. As long as our domestic administration was confined merely to the raising of a revenue, they levied taxes with gross facility from the industry of a country too busy to criticise or complain. But when the excitement and distraction of war had ceased, and they were forced to survey the social elements that surrounded them, they seemed, for the first time, to have become conscious of their own incapacity. These men, indeed, were the mere children of routine. They prided themselves on being practical men. In the language of this defunct school of statesmen, a practical man is a man who practises the blunders of his predecessors."

The recall of Sir Robert from Rome to form an administration is followed by these remarks:

"Here might be marked a murmuring knot of grey-headed privy-councillors who had held fat offices under Percival and Liverpool, and who looked back to the Reform act as to a hideous dream; there some middle-aged aspirants might be observed who had lost their seats in the convulsion, but who flattered themselves they had done something for the party in the interval by spending nothing except their breath in fighting hopeless boroughs, and occasionally publishing a pamphlet, which really produced less effect than chalking the walls. Light as air, and proud as a young peacock, tripped on his toes a young Tory, who had contrived to keep his seat in a parliament where he had done nothing, but who thought an under-secretaryship was now secure, particularly as he was the son of a noble lord who had also in a public capacity plundered and blundered in the good old time. The true political adventurer, who with dull desperation had stuck at nothing, had never neglected a treasury note, had been present at every division, never spoke when he was asked to be silent, and was always ready on any subject when they wanted him to open his mouth; who had treated his leaders with servility even behind their backs, and was happy for the day if a future secretary of the treasury bowed to him; who had not only discountenanced discontent in the party, but had regularly reported in strict confidence every instance of insubordination which came to his knowledge; might there, too, be detected under all the agonies of the crisis; just beginning to feel the dread misgiving, whether being a slave and a sneak were sufficient qualifications for office, without family or connexion. Poor fellow! half the industry he had wasted on his cheerless craft might have made his fortune in some decent trade! In dazzling contrast with these throes of low ambition were some brilliant personages

who had just scampered up from Melton, thinking it probable that Sir Robert might want some moral lords of the bedchamber. Whatever may have been their private fears or feelings, all however seemed smiling and significant, as if they knew something if they chose to tell it, and that something very much to their own satisfaction. The only grave countenance that was occasionally ushered into the room belonged to some individual whose destiny was not in doubt, and who was already practising the official air that was in future to repress the familiarity of his former fellow-strugglers."

What led to these new prospects is thus detailed:

"The startling rapidity, however, of the strange incidents of 1834; the indignant, soon to become vituperative, secession of a considerable section of the cabinet, some of them esteemed, too, at that time among its most efficient members; the piteous deprecation of 'pressure from without,' from lips hitherto deemed too stately for entreaty, followed by the trades' union, thirty thousand strong, parading in procession to Downing Street; the Irish negotiations of Lord Hatherton, strange blending of complex intrigue and almost infantile ingenuousness; the still inexplicable resignation of Lord Althorp, hurriedly followed by his still more mysterious resumption of power, the only result of his precipitate movements being the fall of Lord Grey himself, attended by circumstances which even a friendly historian could scarcely describe as honourable to his party or dignified to himself; latterly, the extemporaneous address of King William to the bishops; the vagrant and grotesque apocalypse of the lord chancellor; and the fierce recrimination and memorable defiance of the Edinburgh banquet; all these impressive instances of public affairs and public conduct had combined to create a predominant opinion that, whatever might be the consequences, the prolonged continuance of the present party in power was a clear impossibility. It is evident that the suicidal career of what was then styled the liberal party had been occasioned and stimulated by its unnatural excess of strength. The apoplectic plethora of 1834 was not less fatal than the paralytic tenuity of 1841. It was not feasible to gratify so many ambitions, or to satisfy so many expectations. Every man had his double; the heels of every placeman were dogged by friendly rivals ready to trip them up. There were even two cabinets; the one that met in council, and the one that met in cabal. The consequence of destroying the legitimate opposition of the country was, that a moiety of the supporters of government had to discharge the duties of opposition. Herein, then, we detect the real cause of all that irregular and unsettled carriage of public men, which so perplexed the nation after the passing of the Reform act. No government can be long secure without a formidable opposition. It reduces their supporters to that tractable number which can be managed by the joint influences of fruition and of hope. It offers vengeance to the discontented and distinction to the ambitious; and employs the energies of aspiring spirits, who otherwise may prove traitors in a division, or assassins in a debate."

On the subject of the poor-laws, the sentiments of Young England meet with our most cordial recognition. Lord Henry Sydney, it is written, "would not listen to statistics, dietary tables, commissioners' rules, sub-commissioners' reports. He went far higher than his father; far deeper than his brother-in-law. He

represented to the duke that the order of the peasantry was as ancient, legal, and recognised an order as the order of the nobility; that it had distinct rights and privileges, though for centuries they had been invaded and violated, and permitted to fall into desuetude. He impressed upon the duke that the parochial constitution of this country was more important than its political constitution; that it was more ancient, more universal in its influence; and that this parochial constitution had already been shaken to its centre by the new poor-law. He assured his father that it would never be well for England until this order of the peasantry was restored to its pristine condition; not merely in physical comfort, for that must vary according to the economical circumstances of the time, like that of every class; but to its condition in all those moral attributes which make a recognised rank in a nation, and which, in a great degree, are independent of economics, manners, customs, ceremonies, rights, and privileges. 'Henry thinks,' said Lord Everingham, 'that the people are to be fed by dancing round a May-pole.' 'But will the people be more fed because they do not dance round a May-pole?' urged Lord Henry. 'Oh-soleto customs!' said Lord Everingham. 'And why should dancing round a May-pole be more obsolete than holding a chapter of the garter?' asked Lord Henry. The duke, who was a blue ribbon, felt this a home-thrust. 'I must say,' said his grace, 'that I for one deeply regret that our popular customs have been permitted to fall so into desuetude.' 'The spirit of the age is against such things,' said Lord Everingham. 'And what is the spirit of the age?' asked Coningsby. 'The spirit of utility,' said Lord Everingham. 'And you think, then, that ceremony is not useful?' urged Coningsby mildly. 'It depends upon circumstances,' said Lord Everingham. 'There are some ceremonies, no doubt, that are very proper, and of course very useful. But the best thing we can do for the labouring classes is to provide them with work.' 'But what do you mean by the labouring classes, Everingham?' asked Lord Henry. 'Lawyers are a labouring class, for instance, and, by the by, sufficiently provided with work;—but would you approve of Westminster Hall being denuded of all its ceremonies?' 'And the long vacation being abolished?' added Coningsby.

Vol. I. has furnished the foregoing extracts. Vol. II. transports us to Manchester and the manufacturing districts, where the Aladdin's lamp of machinery is magnified amid observations rather whimsical and magniloquent than apt. Thus in the Manchester hotel "even his bedroom was lit by gas. Wonderful city! That, however, could be got rid of. He opened the window. The summer air was sweet even in this land of smoke and toil. He feels a sensation such as in Lisbon or Lima precedes an earthquake. The house appears to quiver. It is a sympathetic affection occasioned by a steam-engine in a neighbouring factory. Notwithstanding, however, all these novel incidents, Coningsby slept the deep sleep of youth and health—of a brain which, however occasionally perplexed by thought, had never been harassed by anxiety. He rose early—freshened and in fine spirits. And by the time the devilled chicken and the buttered toast—that mysterious and incomparable luxury which only can be obtained at an inn—had disappeared, he felt all the delightful excitement of travel."—A machine is a slave that neither brings nor bears degradation: it is a being endowed with the greatest degree of energy, and

acting under the greatest degree of excitement, yet free, at the same time, from all passion and emotion. It is therefore not only a slave, but a supernatural slave. And why should one say that the machine does not live? It breathes; for its breath forms the atmosphere of some towns. It moves with more regularity than man. And has it not a voice? Does not the spindle sing like a merry girl at her work, and the steam-engine roar in jolly chorus like a strong artisan handling his lusty tools, and gaining a fair day's wages for a fair day's toil?"

A rather vulgar manufacturer of Staley Bridge precedes one of higher station and qualities, yet the type of his order, Mr. Millbank, who is not himself, however, over-polished; as witness his colloquy with his noble guest, the grandson of the Marquis of Monmouth:—

"'Yes,' said Millbank, filling his glass, and pursuing some previous observations, 'all that we want in this country is to be masters of our own industry; but Saxon industry and Norman manners never will agree; and some day, Mr. Coningsby, you will find that out.'—"Exactly," said Coningsby; 'but those manners are gone.' 'From Rossendale,' said Millbank, with a grim smile; 'but not from England.' 'Where do you meet them?' 'Meet them! In every place, at every hour; and feel them, too, in every transaction of life.' 'I know, sir, from your son,' said Coningsby, inquiringly, 'that you are opposed to an aristocracy.' 'No, I am not. I am for an aristocracy; but a real one, a natural one.' 'But, sir, is not the aristocracy of England,' said Coningsby, 'a real one? You do not confound our peerage, for example, with the degraded patricians of the continent?' 'Hum!' said Millbank; 'I do not understand how an aristocracy can exist, unless it be distinguished by some quality which no other class of the community possesses. Distinction is the basis of aristocracy. If you permit only one class of the population, for example, to bear arms, they are an aristocracy; not one much to my taste; but still a great fact. That, however, is not the characteristic of the English peerage. I have yet to learn they are richer than we are, better informed, wiser, or more distinguished for public or private virtue. Is it not monstrous, then, that a small number of men, several of whom take the titles of duke and earl from towns in this very neighbourhood—towns which they never saw, which never heard of them, which they did not form, or build, or establish—I say, is it not monstrous that individuals so circumstanced should be invested with the highest of conceivable privileges—the privilege of making laws? Dukes and earls indeed! I say there is nothing in a masquerade more ridiculous."

The Radicals are not more in favour, however, than the aristocracy:

"The borough was a manufacturing town, and returning only one member; it had hitherto sent up to Westminster a radical shopkeeper, one Mr. Jawster Sharp, who had taken what is called 'a leading part' in the town on every 'crisis' that had occurred since 1830; one of those zealous patriots who had got up penny subscriptions for gold cups to Lord Grey; cries for the bill, the whole bill, and nothing but the bill; and public dinners where the victual was devoured before grace was said; a worthy who makes speeches, passes resolutions, votes addresses, goes up with deputations, has at all times the necessary quantity of confidence in the necessary individual—confidence in Lord Grey, confidence in Lord Durham, confidence in Lord Melbourne; and can also, if necessary, give three cheers for the king, or three

groans for the queen. But the days of the genus Jawster Sharp were over in this borough as well as in many others. He had contrived, in his lustre of agitation, to feather his nest pretty successfully, by which he had lost public confidence and gained his private end. Three hungry Jawster Sharps, his hopeful sons, had all become commissioners of one thing or another—temporary appointments with interminable duties; a low-church son-in-law found himself comfortably seated in a chancellor's living, and several cousins and nephews were busy in the Excise. But Jawster Sharp himself was as pure as Cato. He had always said he would never touch the public money; and he had kept his word."

That all power and authority is concentrated in the House of Commons, and in the Ministry so long as they can keep together a majority, is the ruling dogma of Young England; and some of the passages which denounce this state of things are ably expressed:

"'You will observe one curious trait,' said Sidonia to Coningsby, 'in the history of this country: the depositary of power is always unpopular; all combine against it; always it falls. Power was deposited in the great barons; the church, using the king for its instrument, crushed the great barons. Power was deposited in the church; the king, bribing the parliament, plundered the church. Power was deposited in the king; the parliament, using the people, beheaded the king, expelled the king, changed the king, and finally, for a king substituted an administrative officer. For one hundred and fifty years power has been deposited in the parliament; and, for the last sixty or seventy years, it has been becoming more and more unpopular. In 1830 it was endeavoured, by a reconstruction, to regain the popular affection; but, in truth, as the parliament then only made itself more powerful, it has only become more odious. As we see that the barons, the church, the king, have in turn devoured each other, and that the parliament, the last devourer, remains, it is impossible to resist the impression that this body also is doomed to be destroyed; and he is a sagacious statesman who may detect in what form and in what quarter the great consumer will arise.'"

"'In this country,' said Sidonia, 'since the peace, there has been an attempt to advocate a reconstruction of society on a purely rational basis. The principle of Utility has been powerfully developed. I speak not with lightness of the labours of the disciples of that school. I bow to intellect in every form: and we should be grateful to any school of philosophers, even if we disagree with them; doubly grateful in this country, where for so long a period our statesmen were in so pitiable an arrear of public intelligence. There has been an attempt to reconstruct society on a basis of material motives and calculations. It has failed. It must ultimately have failed under any circumstances: its failure in an ancient and densely peopled kingdom was inevitable. How limited is human reason, the profoundest inquirers are most conscious. We are not indebted to the reason of man for any of the great achievements which are the landmarks of human action and human progress. It was not reason that besieged Troy; it was not reason that sent forth the Saracen from the desert to conquer the world; that inspired the Crusades; that instituted the monastic orders; it was not reason that produced the Jesuits; above all, it was not reason that created the French Revolution. Man is only truly great when he acts from the passions; never irresistible but when he appeals

to the imagination. Even Mormon counts more votaries than Bentham.' 'And you think, then, that as imagination once subdued the state, imagination may now save it?' 'Man is made to adore and to obey: but if you will not command him; if you give him nothing to worship; he will fashion his own divinities, and find a chieftain in his own passions.' 'But where can we find faith in a nation of sectaries? Who can feel loyalty to a sovereign of Downing Street?' 'I speak of the eternal principles of human nature; you answer me with the passing accidents of the hour. Sects rise and sects disappear. Where are the Fifth-monarchy men? England is governed by Downing Street; once it was governed by Alfred and Elizabeth.'"

This description of the power of the Bureaucracy is succeeded by a contemptuous picture of its satellites:—

"The death of the king was a great blow to the 'Conservative cause'; that is to say, it darkened the brow of Tadpole, quailed the heart of Taper, crushed all the rising hopes of those numerous statesmen who believe the country must be saved if they receive twelve hundred a year. It is a peculiar class, that; 1200*l.* per annum, paid quarterly, is their idea of political science and human nature. To receive 1200*l.* per annum is government; to try to receive 1200*l.* per annum is opposition; to wish to receive 1200*l.* per annum is ambition. If a man wants to get into parliament, and does not want to get 1200*l.* per annum, they look upon him as daft; as a benighted being. They stare in each other's face and ask, 'What can — want to get into parliament for?' They have no conception that public reputation is a motive power, and with many men the greatest. They have as much idea of fame or celebrity, even of the masculine impulse of an honourable pride, as eunuchs of manly joys. The twelve-hundred-a-yearers were in despair about the king's death. Their loyal souls were sorely grieved that his gracious majesty had not outlived the registration. All their happy inventions about 'hay-fever,' circulated in confidence and sent by post to chairmen of Conservative associations, followed by a royal funeral! General election about to take place with the old registration; government boroughs against them, and the young queen for a cry."

But Young England is to step in and put all to rights:—

"The Whigs are worn out," said Vere, "Conservatism is a sham, and Radicalism is pollution." "I certainly," said Buckhurst, "when I get into the House of Commons, shall speak my mind without reference to any party whatever; and all I hope is, we may all come in at the same time, and then we may make a party of our own." "I have always heard my father say," said Vere, "that there was nothing so difficult as to organise an independent party in the House of Commons." "Ay! but that was in the Venetian period, Vere," said Henry Sydney smiling. "I dare say," said Buckhurst; "the only way to make a party in the House of Commons is just the one that succeeds any where else. Men must associate together. When you are living in the same set, dining together every day, and quizzing the dons, it is astonishing how well men agree. As for me, I never would enter into a conspiracy, unless the conspirators were fellows who had been at Eton with me; and then there would be no treachery." "Let us think of principles, and not of parties," said Coningsby. "For my part," said Buckhurst, "whenever a political system is breaking up, as in this country at present, I think the very best thing is to brush all the

old dons off the stage. They never take to the new road kindly. They are always hampered by their exploded prejudices and obsolete traditions. I don't think a single man, Vere, that sat in the Venetian senate,\* ought to be allowed to sit in the present English House of Commons."

The Sidonia mentioned in one of the foregoing quotations is a type of the Jewish people, and their immense money-capital and consequent influence throughout Europe. We are told:

"You never observe a great intellectual movement in Europe in which the Jews do not greatly participate. The first Jesuits were Jews; that mysterious Russian diplomacy which so alarms Western Europe is organised and principally carried on by Jews; that mighty revolution which is at this moment preparing in Germany, and which will be in fact a second and greater reformation, and of which so little is as yet known in England, is entirely developing under the auspices of Jews, who almost monopolise the professorial chairs of Germany. Neander, the founder of spiritual Christianity, and who is regius professor of divinity in the University of Berlin, is a Jew. Benary equally famous, and in the same university, is a Jew. Wehl, the Arabic professor of Heidelberg, is a Jew. Years ago, when I was in Palestine, I met a German student who was accumulating materials for the history of Christianity, and studying the genius of the place; a modest and learned man. It was Wehl; then unknown, since become the first Arabic scholar of the day, and the author of the life of Mahomet. But for the German professors of this race, their name is Legion. I think there are more than ten at Berlin alone. I told you just now that I was going up to town to-morrow, because I always made it a rule to interpose when affairs of state were on the carpet. Otherwise, I never interfere. I hear of peace and war in newspapers, but I am never alarmed, except when I am informed that the sovereigns want treasure; then I know that monarchs are serious. A few years back we were applied to by Russia. Now there has been no friendship between the court of St. Petersburg and the Sidonias. I resolved to go myself to St. Petersburg. I had on my arrival an interview with the Russian minister of finance, Count Cancrin; I beheld the son of a Lithuanian Jew. The loan was connected with the affairs

of Spain; I resolved on repairing to Spain from Russia. I travelled without intermission. I had an audience immediately on my arrival with the Spanish minister, Senor Mendizabel; I beheld one like myself, the son of a Nuovo Christiano, a Jew of Arragon. In consequence of what transpired at Madrid, I went straight to Paris, to consult the president of the French council; I beheld the son of a French Jew, a hero, an imperial marshal, and very properly so, for who should be military heroes if not those who worship the Lord of hosts? 'And is Soult a Hebrew?' 'Yes, and several of the French marshals, and the most famous: Massena, for example—his real name was Masseneh. But to my anecdote. The consequence of our consultations was, that some northern power should be applied to in a friendly and mediative capacity. We fixed on Prussia, and the president of the council made an application to the Prussian minister, who attended a few days after our conference. Count Arnim entered the cabinet, and I beheld a Prussian Jew. So you see, my dear Coningsby, that the world is governed by very different personages to what is imagined by those who are not behind the scenes.'—"Favoured by nature and by nature's God, we produced the lyre of David; we gave you Isaiah and Ezekiel; they are our Olynthians, our Philipps. Favoured by nature we still remain: but in exact proportion as we have been favoured by nature we have been persecuted by man. After a thousand struggles—after acts of heroic courage that Rome has never equalled—deeds of divine patriotism that Athens, and Sparta, and Carthage, have never excelled—we have endured fifteen hundred years of supernatural slavery; during which, every device that can degrade or destroy man has been the destiny that we have sustained and baffled. The Hebrew child has entered adolescence only to learn that he was the Pariah of that ungrateful Europe that owes to him the best part of its laws, a fine portion of its literature, all its religion. Great poets require a public; we have been content with the immortal melodies that we sung more than two thousand years ago by the waters of Babylon and wept. They record our triumphs; they solace our affliction. Great orators are the creatures of popular assemblies; we were permitted only by stealth to meet even in our temples. And as for great writers, the catalogue is not blank. What are all the schoolmen, Aquinas himself, to Maimonides? and as for modern philosophy, all springs from Spinoza! But the passionate and creative genius that is the nearest link to divinity, and which no human tyranny can destroy, though it can divert it; that should have stirred the hearts of nations by its inspired sympathy, or governed senates by its burning eloquence, has found a medium for its expression, to which, in spite of your prejudices and your evil passions, you have been obliged to bow. The ear, the voice, the fancy teeming with combinations, the imagination fervent with picture and emotion, that came from Caucasus, and which we have preserved unpolluted, have endowed us with almost the exclusive privilege of music!—that science of harmonious sounds which the ancients recognised as most divine, and deified in the person of their most beautiful creation. I speak not of the past; though were I to enter into the history of the lords of melody, you would find it the annals of Hebrew genius. But at this moment even, musical Europe is ours. There is not a company of singers, not an orchestra in a single capital, that are not crowded with our children, under the feigned names

\* Elsewhere thus defined:—

"We were governed in this country by the Venetian constitution from the accession of the house of Hanover. But that yoke is past. And now, I hope we are in a state of transition from the Italian dogship to the English monarchy." "King, lords, and commons, the Venetian constitution!" exclaimed Sir Joseph. "But they were phrases," said Coningsby, "not facts. The king was a dog; the cabinet the council of ten. Your parliament, that you call lords and commons, was nothing more than the great council of nobles." "The resemblance was complete," said Millbank; "and no wonder, for it was not accidental: the Venetian constitution was intentionally copied." "We should have had the Venetian republic in 1649," said Coningsby, "had it not been for the Puritans. Geneva beat Venice." "I am sure these ideas are not very generally known," said Sir Joseph, bewildered. "Because you have had your history written by the Venetian party," said Coningsby, "and it has been their interest to conceal them." "I will venture to say that there are very few men on our side in the House of Commons," said Sir Joseph, "who are aware that they were born under a Venetian constitution."



which they adopt to conciliate the dark aversion which your posterity will some day disclaim with shame and disgust. Almost every great composer, skilled musician, almost every voice that ravishes you with its transporting strains, spring from our tribes. The catalogue is too vast to enumerate; too illustrious to dwell for a moment on secondary names, however eminent. Enough for us that the three great creative minds, to whose exquisite inventions all nations at this moment yield,—Rossini, Meyerbeer, Mendelssohn,—are of Hebrew race; and little do your men of fashion, your 'muscadins' of Paris and your dandies of London, as they thrill into raptures at the notes of a Pasta or a Grisi, little do they suspect that they are offering their homage to the sweet singers of Israel!"

There can be no doubt but that the Hebrew nation are making not only a great stand but a great advance in our day; and from the publications respecting them which are continually coming before us, we would fain hope for a mighty improvement in their condition, and springing from themselves.

But we have gone more at length into this work than we needed, and the more so as it has been the town's-talk and the theme of every periodical which has appeared within the past week. We have touched upon the most prominent topics, to the exclusion of others of a more refreshing nature, such as the description of schoolboy days and schoolboy feelings and friendships—occasional glances at rural scenery and accounts of baronial halls, and Parisian and London fêtes among the highest ranks—the whole story of love-affairs, deaths, and marriages—and all the incidents which form the plot and framework of the tableau. In the sketch of Hook, Mr. Disraeli has not been very successful; and we question the fact that he ever received a pecuniary favour from Lord Hertford. A few blemishes in style are scarcely worth notice, including the pet word "volitions" and "the two first miles." On the whole, *Coningsby* is a production of much talent—such, indeed, as was to be anticipated from the earlier performances of the author. With regard to its propriety, the question is far more doubtful. The savage and unsparing satirist of other men not only undertakes a dangerous task, but one which involves great responsibility. Who is entitled to sit in judgment on his fellows? Who is so pre-eminent for virtue, for personal integrity and unspotted reputation, and for political consistency and purity, as to have the right to censure all others—not merely the notoriously sensual and corrupt, but the foremost men of the age? Modesty would shrink affrighted from the effrontery of the act, which enormous vanity and self-conceit might not hesitate to attempt. On general public affairs, we would say that Young England has as deep an interest and as high a function to speak as Greybeard England has; but we never can sanction personalities which remind us, however cleverly executed, of a class of publication which had its run some years ago, and was designated as *The Wigmore Street Gang*, and boasted such titles as "The Rising Sun," "The Cab-Driver and his Wife," and others whose sole recommendation was their impudent caricatures of living people. *Coningsby* has flown at higher game, and with a higher pitch of talent; but the principle violated is the same, and not so distinct from the vocation of Gregory's and *Satirists* as to be exalted in the hands of a Member of the Legislature! Those who live in glass houses, such as the House of Commons, should beware how they throw stones!

*The Mysteries of London, &c.* By Father North. 18mo, pp. 81. London, Cunningham.

A TOLERABLY smart exposure of the tricks of London, and one which might as well have confessed its manifold obligations to our Aunt Margery. The following samples will exhibit its form and pressure:

"*Advertising.*—The frauds in this department are enormous; less with reference to the greater or less circulation of the channels recommended than to misappropriation of funds. A person, calling himself an advertising-agent, takes your order for twelve insertions in a particular journal at a price considerably below what the journal itself will charge. The mystery is soon solved. He inserts eight in lieu of twelve! Or, you give an order for one hundred advertisements in the provincial papers. He transmits five; and on such occasions punctually sends you the journals which contain them. You trust to his honesty for the rest, and are 'done.'"

"*Agriculture.*—The works of Liebig, which have given a great impulse to our farming improvements, have also brought into the field a host of pretenders. Infinitesimal quantities of guano-ised stuff were to produce marvels. 'You will soon,' said a Hertfordshire farmer to his friend, 'be able to carry the manure for a field in one of your waistcoat-pockets.' 'And bring back the crop in the other!' was the rejoinder. We have been latterly informed that we may do without manure at all, as it is only necessary to steep the seeds in certain preparations in order to their producing at least twelvefold! It would appear to be somewhat easier to catch a farmer asleep than a weasel."

"*Bear's Grease.*—All the brown, black, and white bears in the world would scarcely yield a month's supply of genuine grease for the polar consumption of Great Britain. To 'slaughter a bear' is a byword among barbers for opening a bladder of lard!"

"*Cartoon.*—A bad sketch on a large scale."

"*Mineral Waters.*—Most of the German mineral waters are manufactured at Battersea, there being abundance of carbonic acid in that vicinity."

"*Animal Magnetism.*—The best application of this extraordinary science has been discovered by a Scotch friend of mine, who is always, somehow or other, under the influence of Mesmeric sleep when applied to for the payment of an account."

"*Picture-Dealers.*—A few years ago, a gentleman mixing in very good society was in the receipt of 5000*l.* a year from the mysteries of picture-jobbing. He kept an artist in the same way that Warren keeps a poet. Claudes were never so plentiful, and even Hobbimas became much less scarce. For one of the latter, a coal-owner, a friend of mine not quite far enough north, was induced to give 700*l.*, the real value (colours and canvass) being seven shillings."

The book has a good many puffs of its own, which might be quoted as much in the spirit of the mysteries it arraigns.

*Twelfth Report of the Directors of the New Zealand Company, 26th April, 1844.* Pp. 38.

The crisis which has arrived to this important colony, and a country so capable of vast resources, will probably lead at no distant period to some entire national scheme for the direction of colonisation. We witnessed and described one of the expeditions to New Zealand, and we have read and weighed all the company's plans for settlement; and surely if ever any design of the kind promised well in private hands, the provisions of this establishment were

of that kind. What the result will be, it is impossible to predict; but in the interim the directors are compelled to suspend their operations, reduce their expenditure to the lowest point, and wait for events as they may occur.

The disadvantageous turn of colonial affairs in almost every quarter where our surplus population seek to better themselves, is of the gravest importance. Its causes, one would think, might now be certainly ascertained, and remedies applied to correct the evil as far as possible, and at any rate general measures be adopted to provide against their increase or recurrence. Persons who have embarked largely, and many their all, in enterprises of this nature, must exert themselves to make their bed as easy as they can; but others, as yet only projecting removal from their native land, should be put on their guard against the plausible reports of interested parties, the accounts of rival settlements, and the seductions of jobbers of every description. The latest news from these parts are significantly contained in the following paragraph, though evidently published to favour one particular colony, where the financial experiment tried for its prosperity signally failed (see Col. Torrens' *Budget*, p. 191, *et seq.*):—

"Mercantile affairs in Sydney and Van Diemen's Land are still at a low ebb. In the list of insolvents we observe the names of A. B. Spark, Richard Jones, and the firm of Hughes and Hosking; the last-mentioned house having failed for nearly 600,000*l.* In a letter from Bathurst, New South Wales, now lying before us, under date of 8th of August, the writer says:—'This country is now in a most deplorable state, worse than South Australia ever was. I expect to see good estates yet sold at 5*s.* per acre, with improvements. Excellent farms, with first-rate dwelling-houses and offices, have already been sold at 1*l.* per acre, within a few miles of this town. In fact nothing will sell now which will not produce a certain income to pay interest for the purchase-money. Too late settlers are beginning to find out the folly of purchasing unproductive land, for which they have to pay an enormous rent in the shape of interest. They now begin to calculate on the prodigal waste which they have of late years allowed on all their stations, and the expensive manner in which they themselves have lived; and admit these have aided their downfall. The colonists have had a lesson they will never forget. When the worst is past, we shall see the benefit of it in the future state of affairs. We must rise again by our own industry and frugality. I am glad to hear South Australia is getting on so well in her exports. I hope yet to see yours a country of some importance in this part of the globe. I have seen no country I like better since I left it, though I have visited many parts of Australia, Van Diemen's Land, and New Zealand; and I am often half inclined to return to it.'"

*Constancy and Contrition.* 3 vols. R. Bentley. Two pleasing stories of upper or fashionable life, and evidently the production of a lady's pen. She displays considerable skill in tracing the workings of the human mind; and following out a woful of action, to shew the operation of slight circumstances, the gradual changes wrought by further observation, and the whole fate or course of life made different in progress and ending by extrinsic causes, and almost in opposition to will. Novel-readers of *Constancy* will have no reason to be dissatisfied with the first, nor feel any reason to regret the time they bestow on the last.

*The Book of Common Prayer, with Plain Tune.* Part II. Edited by W. Dyce, Esq., M.A. London, J. Burns. 1844.

THE first part of this unique edition in black-letter we noticed, with warm commendation, on its appearance some time since, and we have now to recommend to equal favour this second portion, which completes the work, and contains also many interesting additions by the editor. The volume comprises the Psalter, with the Gregorian Tones; the Burial Service, with the musical notation; an Appendix, affording much valuable matter on the subject of "Plain-song," which seems generally too little understood or studied; and also a reprint of portions of the Communion and Burial Services, adapted by Marbeck, but omitted or altered to suit this work. The beautiful style in which the whole is executed, in red and black, with appropriate borders, and other features of the old missals, not only recommends it to the notice of the curious, but renders it well deserving of adoption at the altar and reading-desk, for which purpose, indeed, we believe it is already in demand.

*Ideotypics, or the Art of Memory.* By W. T. Joneson. Pp. 128. London, Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.; Ramsgate, W. A. Hunt.

HELPS to memory have always puzzled us; but that they are useful to others is to be presumed from the careful publications on the subject; and Mr. Joneson's system seems to be very complete.

*Farming for Ladies.* 12mo, pp. 510. Murray. A VERY complete guide to the management of the poultry-yard, dairy, and piggery, by the intelligent and practical author of *British Husbandry*.

*Notions on Corn-Laws and Customs Duties.* By H. T. Prinsep, Esq. Pp. 56. London, W. H. Allen and Co.

MR. PRINSEP, coming from abroad with a new mind to this vexed (and vexatious) question, reasons in the most quiet and cogent manner in favour of a duty on foreign corn (as custom-duties are inevitable on many articles as international intercourse exists); and also prefers the sliding to any fixed scale. His pamphlet is one of great merit, and should be read by both sides.

*The Budget. On Colonial and Commercial Policy, &c.* By R. Torrens, Esq., F.R.S. Pp. 427. Smith, Elder, and Co.

IN this volume Colonel Torrens, one of the most able and profound of our writers on political economy, and one who never argues for the sacrifice of humanity at the shrine of Mammon, applies the deductive method of Mill's system of logic to the solution of several of the most momentous questions which affect the national interests. Commercial reforms, colonisation, taxation, corn-laws, import and export duties, free trade, labour, wages, currency, &c., are all investigated with searching judgment; and it is often shewn that apparently conflicting opinions are in principle essentially the same, and only seem to differ from being applied under changed circumstances of affairs. The introduction is copious in argument of this nature, and shews that in opposing certain data the reasoning frequently tends to confirm their truth:—but the subjects are too large for us to grapple with, and therefore we must be content to recommend the work in which they are so well treated to the notice of the public. Not only those who agree with, but those who dissent from, the author's views will learn much by giving their minds to their careful consideration.

*Uncle Sam's Peculiarities.* By Uncle Sam. 2 vols. J. Mortimer.

TWO very amusing volumes of what we may call the autobiography of Uncle Sam, *alias* U.S., the United States. The traits are many and characteristic; and the language that foreign American, which is generally called English when the countries are in good humour with each other; *i. e.* when ambassadors, &c., at public meetings, and political writers on either side, speak of "mother and daughter," "descendants of same ancestors," "identical people," and so forth, and not "Britishers" and "Yankees," "tyrants" and "repudiators!" But the flowers of the *Peculiarities* have already bloomed in, and given freshness and bouquet to, *Bentley's Miscellany* and *Ainsworth's Magazine*; and we should only be following in their wake with withered sweets, were we to present any of them to the nostrils of our customers. All we shall say therefore is, that they are very pleasing when thus gathered together.

*Elements of Truth, &c.* By Omicron. Pp. 101. Houghton and Co.

A SECOND edition of a very grave effort to put forth the grand doctrines of the Christian faith in a very condensed form.

## ARTS AND SCIENCES.

### GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

May 13.—Mr. R. J. Murchison, president, in the chair. The minutes being read, the president announced that his Royal Highness Prince Albert had graciously condescended to fill the office of vice-patron of the society, which had become vacant by the lamented death of the Duke of Sussex. Four new members were elected; after which the secretary read a paper by Dr. Beke, being the details of that traveller's route from Yaush to Massouah, in Abyssinia. The road taken was an entirely new one, and had never before been mapped; the country varied considerably in its aspect and fertility;—but the nature of the paper, which was an itinerary, does not admit of an abridgment.

### CIVIL ENGINEERS.

April 30.—The president in the chair.—"A description of the method employed for repairing a chimney 120 feet high, at Messrs. Cowper's cotton-mills, Glasgow," by Mr. J. Colthurst, was read. The means adopted were thus described:—the workman was provided with a broad leather belt, to which was attached a strong spring hook; staple-shaped ladder irons, with flat jagged ends, were driven into the joints above each other, at intervals of 15 inches apart, by the man standing on them in succession, as he ascended, until he reached the top; his safety was secured by fixing the spring hook on to the ladder-iron immediately opposite his waist, which enabled him to use both his hands when working; a rope was also passed round his waist and down inside the ladder-irons, to support him in case one of the irons broke or came out; he thus succeeded in removing some ornamental plates of iron which had been loosened by a storm. In descending, the workman took the ladder-irons out one after the other, the whole operation being performed in two days and a half, the total cost, including a bonus of 5*l.* to the workman, was only 13*l.*—The first part of a paper by Mr. W. Fairbairn, "On the reduction of the magnetic ores of Samakoff (Turkey)," was read. The magnetic iron ore is nearly a pure oxide of iron, containing about 63 per cent of metal, free from sulphur, arsenic, and other dele-

terious matters, and mixed with about 12 per cent of siliceous earth. The ore was described as being found in the form of a fine sand, covering extensive plains, where it had been deposited to the depth of several feet, probably by the action of water upon the mountains around, where a similar ore existed in considerable masses. Mr. Clay's process, modified by himself to suit the peculiar condition of this ore, has been so successfully applied to the working of it, that preparations were immediately commenced for erecting works in Turkey on a large scale. Incidental to the subject of the glassy scoria of the iron furnaces, Mr. Clay mentioned that he had studied carefully the composition of crown glass: he believed that he was the first to point out the true atomic character of glass; that its quality depended on the ingredients being compounded in certain definite atomic proportions; and that crown glass was a quinquisilicate of lime and soda. He arrived at these conclusions in the year 1835; and at works at Birmingham, it was found, that on following the rules he laid down, the production of a constant quality of glass was attained.

May 7.—The second part of Mr. Fairbairn's paper entered at length upon the experiments on the transverse strength of the Turkish iron, and also of the iron from other rich ores, presenting the results in a tabular form, mingled with those which had been reported on previous occasions, in the Transactions of the Philosophical Society of Manchester, and in the reports of the British Association. These tables were arranged so as to afford the means of comparison of the strength and other qualities of various irons, and also for practical purposes, to furnish a guide for selecting such irons, as by proper mixture of the various kinds, would enable unerring results to be arrived at by the founder, when engaged in producing castings for the engineer, the architect, or for various purposes in the arts or in construction. Simple rules were also given for finding the breaking weight of beams cast from the fifty-two kinds of iron which had been experimented upon. The importance of the subject of the paper, the novelty of the application of Mr. Clay's system, and the unwearied attention of Mr. Fairbairn, together with Mr. Hodgkinson, in the numerous experiments they had made, were fully appreciated by the meeting, and it was announced that the valuable tables would speedily be published entire in the minutes of proceedings of the institution.—A letter was read from Dr. Schafhaeutl, drawing attention to some experiments made by Sir David Brewster, "On the prismatic colours generated in homogeneous bodies, when pressure was applied to them." These experiments were recorded in the Philosophical Transactions for 1816. They furnished a method of rendering visible, and of measuring, the mechanical changes which took place during the compression, dilation, or bending of transparent bodies. He also stated, that the tints produced by polarised light were correct measures of the compressing and dilating forces; and by employing transparent gums of different elasticities, the changes which occurred in bodies, before they were either broken or crushed, could be ascertained; and that forming models of arches of simple refracting substances, such as gum copal, &c., giving different degrees of roughness to the touching surfaces of the voussoirs, and exposing the model to polarised light, the results of any degree of friction on the joints would be readily observed.—"A description of the iron dock-gates at Montrose harbour," by Mr. Leslie, was then



read, and a general account of Montrose harbour was given.

May 14.—Mr. W. Cubitt, vice-president, in the chair. The paper read was an account, by Mr. J. Samuda, of the atmospheric railway, describing the general principles of the system; the details of the contrivances; the early attempts to use the pressure of the atmosphere for the conveyance of goods and passengers; the practical working at Kingston and Dalkey, leakage, safety from collision, &c. The cost of working was also fully examined; and taking for data the results of the expenses on the Dalkey line, and supposing the system to be adapted to a line of 112 miles long, similar to the London and Birmingham Railway, on which the cost of working with locomotives was stated to be

per train per mile, for haulage	15s.
do. do. for maintenance	8s.
the cost of working the atmospheric would be	
per train per mile, for haulage	5-55d.
do. do. for maintenance	5-38

with the additional advantage of travelling at a mean speed of 50 miles per hour, instead of between 20 and 25 miles per hour, as with the locomotive system. The discussion upon the paper, and the merits of the system, will be renewed at next meeting, for which also the following papers were announced: "Account of the plan adopted by Mr. W. Preston White for raising the 'Innisfail' steamer, sunk in the river Lee, near Cork (Ireland)," by G. P. White; "Essay upon the causes of preventing, and method of determining the amount of priming in steam-boilers," by R. Pollock; "Description of a cofferdam used for closing the end of the building slips at H.M. dockyard, Woolwich," by B. Snow.

#### ASHMOLEAN SOCIETY, OXFORD.

May 13.—Professor Daubeny gave a verbal account of the natural history of Spain. He began by shewing, that some curious analogies may be traced between the physical constitution of Old and New Spain. Both countries form a table-land of considerable height, situated between two seas; both possess a climate and a class of productions characteristic of a more northern latitude than their own; both are remarkable for their mineral wealth; both possess a capital situated in the centre of the country, and being at a distance from any navigable river, are destitute of commerce or manufactures; and both are remarkable for extreme dryness, and great vicissitudes of temperature. On the other hand, the two countries essentially differ in this respect, inasmuch as the table-land of Old Spain is chiefly tertiary, traces of volcanoes being only found on or near either coast, whilst that of Mexico is itself, in a great degree, volcanic throughout. The rocks about Madrid are chiefly tertiary, consisting of marl, gypsum, and limestone; the latter at Colmena-viego is freshwater with Planorbis. A curious magnesite occurs at Vallegas, and bones of extinct mammalia near Madrid. This tertiary basin is bounded to the north by the Somosierra range, and to the south by the mountains of Toledo and Guadalupe. The latter consist of clay-slate alternating with quartzite, and occasionally pierced by masses of granite. The clay-slate at Logiosan, near Truxillo, contains a vein of phosphorite, first noticed, from its phosphorescent property, by Bowles, and afterwards determined by chemical analysis to consist of phosphate of lime, by Proust. The latter chemist reported, that entire hills were composed of it, and this erroneous statement becoming current, gave rise to the idea, that it

might be made available for manure as a substitute for bones. It occurs, however, only in one solitary vein, which is, indeed, often as much as 10 feet wide, and may be traced along the surface of the ground, for nearly two miles, but, except near the centre, is intermixed with quartz. It contains about 14 per cent of fluoride of calcium, as if it were intended to provide a material which enters as a constituent into the bones of animals both of this and of a former age. In this same clay-slate foundation occur likewise the quicksilver mines of Almaden. They are the richest in the world, and the quantity of ore has gone on increasing for a long period of time, 4500 quintals being the quantity of mercury obtained in the sixteenth century annually, 24,874 quintals in 1838. The average thickness of the veins is 25 feet, and they probably extend from Almaden to Almadenejos, a distance of twelve miles. The rocks traversed by the vein are quartz and slate, the ore chiefly cinnabar, from which the mercury is distilled in two different methods; one, the ancient Spanish mode, the other, that adopted at Idria, and found the most economical. The road from Almaden to Cordova affords an interesting section of the clay-slate, and the rocks associated with it. But on descending the southern escarpment of the Sierra Morena in our way to Cordova, we enter upon a tertiary plain of Andalusia, which is bounded on the south by a chain of hills, partly of secondary limestone, stretching along the coast from Gibraltar to Carthage. The rock of Gibraltar exhibits proofs of having been uplifted at a comparatively recent epoch, a sea beach having been discovered at a height of 450 feet above the present level of the Mediterranean. Professor Daubeny then gave a rapid sketch of the rocks crossed on the road from Malaga to Granada, stating that he had examined the thermal spring which gushes out of a chasm in the secondary limestone rock near Alhama, and emits bubbles of gas, which he determined to consist almost wholly of nitrogen, just as happens in those which he had examined in more northern countries. He then described the Sierra Nevada chain, the highest in Europe, next to the Alps, and stated that no erratic blocks had as yet been discovered in it. Between the Sierra Nevada chain and the sea is the mountainous tract called Alpujarras, remarkable for the number and richness of its mineral veins. At Almagrera, in Murcia, have lately been discovered the richest silver mines in Spain, an argentiferous galena, containing sometimes 16 oz. of silver in 71 lbs. of the ore, so that the shares were worth in 1840 from thirty to fifty thousand dollars each. The extraordinary success of this particular undertaking has increased exceedingly the rage for mining speculations in Spain. The only volcanic district in the south of Spain is in Murcia, near Almeria, at the Cape de Gata, and at Almazaron near Carthage. North of the latter place destructive earthquakes have occurred within a few years. This district is nearly in the same parallel as Lisbon, where earthquakes and volcanic rocks also abound; and the same line, if extended westward, would touch the Azores (which are also volcanic), and eastward, Sicily and Smyrna, which localities present the same class of phenomena.

*Vegetation in Spain.*—Spain is distinguished botanically into three regions; the northern of which comprehends Galicia, the Asturias, the Basque provinces, and Navarre, and possesses a humid and comparatively cool climate; the central includes the two Castiles, Aragon, Estramadura, the greater part of Catalonia, Upper

Andalusia, &c., remarkable for its dryness, and the difference between its winter and summer temperature; the lower lying along the coast of the Mediterranean, and possessing a climate little less than tropical. In the first of these regions, maize is particularly cultivated, the pasturage is very fine, and the plants are in general those of a northern region. The silver fir, Scotch pine, and pinus uncinata are there met with. The central or second region is remarkable for the profusion of its aromatic shrubs, especially the cistus tribe, and yields fine crops of corn. In the southern region are met with the sugar-cane; in Valentia the date-palm; near Malaga the cochineal cactus and the cherimoya. In Valentia occurs a particular kind of fir, the abies-pinsapo. Professor Buckland made some observations on the early part of the paper, after which the president declared the sitting closed.

#### PARIS LETTER.

Paris, 4th May, 1844.

*Academy of Sciences:* sittings of April 22 and 29. —M. Payen read the report of a commission favourable to M. Lassaigne's process for the detection of azote in very small quantities of organic substances. Its principle is the formation of a cyanuret when the azotized substance is heated to redness with an excess of potassium, and without contact of air. The smallest particle of gluten, of albumen, of casein, or other organic matter, suffices for experiment.

M. Valz writes that his calculations lead him to the belief that the last comet was identical with that of 1770, disturbed by the action of Jupiter. Observations on its re-appearance in 1851 will probably confirm his views.

M. Melloni communicates that MM. Linari and Palmeri, continuing their researches on the inductive currents of the earth, have arrived at new results. They had already produced the shock and the decomposition of water; since then they have obtained the spark by the action of the globe on a pile or "batterie magnéto-électro-tellurique," without any change in the apparatus, composed still of hollow iron cylinders, enveloped by seven spiral copper wires, covered with silk. The only alteration is the giving to these elements a rapid rotation, by means of a series of wheels. The arrangement for the production of the spark is the same as that in the machine of Clarke. The iron cylinders are made to rotate round a horizontal line, perpendicular to the plane of the magnetic meridian.

M. Melloni adds in his letter that the artesian wells being bored at Naples have reached 108 metres in depth; sixty metres of yellow tuff had been passed through, and then grey tuff of an older formation. The marls and sands were beginning to shew themselves, but mixed with small beds of pumice-stone. The temperature increases very slowly.

MM. Foucault and Fizeau communicated their researches on the intensity of the light of charcoal points, as compared with that of the sun, and of the oxy-hydrogen jet. The experiments were made during the months of August, September, and April, at mid-day, under a clear sky, and gave results which were taken as 1000. Those of the charcoal light were 235, 238, 385. Taking the mean of the first two figures the relation is 1:4.23; and that of the third is 1:2.59. The intensity of the gas jet is of considerable weakness, it is presented by 6.85 only, solar light being 1000, and to which it, considered as unity, bears relation of 1:146. With the charcoal light from 46 pairs of large surfaces its

relation is 1:56; and from 46 pairs of ordinary size 1:34.3. The foregoing are comparisons of chemical intensities. The artificial light from the two above-named sources possesses, however, optical in the similar relation to their chemical intensities.

The physiological researches of MM. Bernard and Barreswil shew that, when gelatine dissolved in gastric juice is injected directly into the blood, it is always to be detected in the excretions; sugar and albumen, on the contrary, under similar circumstances, disappear in the economy.

The experiments of MM. Pugen and Gasparin exhibit the residue of sesame from the oil-press, the *tourteau de sésame*, as an important product to the agriculturist, for feeding milch cows and fattening animals: it increases the production of milk and meat.

M. Jobert read a memoir entitled "Recherches anatomiques sur l'organe électrique de la torpille." From his anatomical examinations it appears to him that of all electrical theories the only one applicable to the apparatus of the torpedo is the theory of currents, as given by MM. Nobili and Ampère.

M. Bertrand has observed in the volcanic districts of the Haute-Loire peculiar loadstones, sometimes in small octahedrons, simple, or truncated on the edges.

M. Bouisson, with reference to the colouring of chyle by madder, says, that the apparent contradictions of experimenters may be explained by the different modes in which the investigations have been made. He admits that the colouring matter of the madder is absorbed by the venous system, and consequently does not directly affect the chyle; but that when alimentation has been sufficiently prolonged for the diffusion of the colouring principle through the system, the lymph as well as the other liquids is charged with it, and transmits it to the chyle, with which it then mixes; whence it results, that the colouring of the chyle is subordinate to the time during which the colouring food may have been administered. The first few days the chyle retains its ordinary appearance, and afterwards presents that of the substances used in the experiment.

M. Leverrier writes that he has long entertained opinions similar to those of M. Valz, that the comet discovered by M. Faye was the same as that of Lexell in 1770.

M. Dujardin forwarded the description of a new magneto-electric machine, the effects of which, he says, are very energetic. This machine consists, 1st, of a horse-shoe magnet, fixed horizontally on a small stand; 2d, of a frame of a galvanometer, placed vertically between the arms of the magnet, and surrounded by numerous circumvolutions of copper wire, 500m long, covered with cotton; and, 3d, of a piece of soft iron, revolving in the interior of the galvanometer.

*French Antiquarian Intelligence.*—An active war is carrying on in France by the ministers of the interior, public instruction, and worship, against all churchwardens and clergy who either have had the interiors of their churches whitewashed in days of bygone Vandalism, or now perpetrate the same atrocity from archaeological ignorance. Recently a considerable portion of the interior of St. Germain des Prés, at Paris, has been stripped of this abominable covering, and shafts of fine marble have been discovered. The very architect who applied this whitewash some thirty years ago, has now been forced to take it off again. At Nevers, where the church of St. Etienne is well known for its architectural riches, an intention to be-

daub its interior with whitewash was known some time since to exist; and last year this "deed without a name" was actually done. Notice had long before been sent to the ministry of the interior that such a thing was about to take place, but no attention was paid to it. The minister, however, has now sent a severe reprimand to the persons implicated, and ordered them to remove the whole of the whitewash at the expense of the parish,—the cost both of application and removal being very considerable.—In the church of Château Salou, near Lons le Saulnier, has been lately found a wooden figure of the fifteenth century, representing St. Benoit d'Aniane holding a kind of umbrella expanded over his head at the end of a stick. The stuff of the umbrella is embroidered, and is gathered into folds at the top. The saint holds it with his right hand, and in his left has an open book.—On occasion of a drawing from some stained glass in the cathedral of Bourges having been sent to the Comité Historique, a discussion upon the following point has arisen: The design of this glass represents Christ riding on the ass into Jerusalem, holding a palm-branch in his left hand, and giving his benediction with his right. It was observed, that a similar figure of Christ in the sculptured compartments surrounding the choir of Notre Dame at Paris had been broken; and on the hand being restored, the modern sculptor had placed a palm-branch in his right hand. This would hinder the benediction from being given, and the restoration was condemned. Baron Taylor observed, that in the East the general tradition is, that Christ held a palm-branch in his hand at the entry into Jerusalem; but M. Didron remarked, that this, in all the Byzantine paintings of mediæval Greece, was placed in the left hand, while the right hand of Christ was always used in the benediction upon the occasion in question. In a painting brought from Mount Athos, Christ is represented giving the benediction with his right hand in the Greek manner, and does not hold any palm-branch at all in the left.

#### LITERARY AND LEARNED.

##### UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

OXFORD, May 9.—The following degrees were conferred:—*Masters of Arts*.—Rev. E. Moore, J. Walker, Brasenose College; Rev. T. Carden, Univ. College; Rev. W. P. Walsh, Rev. L. H. House, Rev. S. H. Unwin, Worcester College.

*Bachelors of Arts*.—C. Hill, Lincoln College; W. Richards, J. Tripp, New Inn Hall; A. J. Ten-Brocke, J. D. Haskins, Magdalen Hall; A. Floyer, E. H. Quicke, Wadham College; W. M. Heath, J. B. Yonge, Exeter College; W. V. Yarworth, St. John's College; W. Green, scholar of Pembroke Coll.; E. H. Armitage; C. Chapman, A. W. Breddon, Trinity College; P. A. Dodson, W. G. Gibson, H. D. Pearson, Worcester College.

CAMBRIDGE, May 8.—The following degrees were conferred:—*Bachelor in Divinity*.—Rev. J. H. Howlett, St. John's College.

*Masters of Arts*.—G. A. Langdale, St. John's Coll.; W. H. Pillans, Jesus Coll.; W. M. Dudley, Catharine Hall; W. J. G. London, Corpus Christi College.

*Bachelor in the Civil Law*.—J. G. Middleton, St. John's College (B.A. 1840).

*Bachelors of Arts*.—M. P. W. Boulton, A. E. K. Hamilton, J. Kay, Trinity College; J. Gorham, J. Fearenside, St. John's College; J. Clarke, Corpus Christi College.

*Ad eundem*.—J. Harrison, M.A., Trinity College, Dublin; T. Page, M.A., Magdalen Hall, Oxford.

*Norrisian Prize*.—The Norrisian prize for the best prose essay on a sacred subject was adjudged to the Rev. J. Woolley, M.A., of Emmanuel College. Subject, "By one offering Christ has perfected for ever them that are sanctified." Heb. x. 14.—*Camb. Chron.*

##### ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

April 24.—Dr. Royle delivered an interesting lecture to an evening meeting of this society

"On the cultivation of tea in the Himalaya Mountains." The lecturer first adverted to the many points requiring attention before the successful cultivation of plants in new localities could be insured. He mentioned the great difficulty experienced with regard to the tea-cultivation in obtaining any correct information from China on the subject. It appeared that the tea-plant was cultivated in China from 17° to 36° of N. lat.; but the black teas of commerce chiefly from 27° to 28°; and the green from 28° to 31° of N. lat., in soils rather poor than rich, and in a climate subject to great extremes. Dr. Royle then adverted to the relative positions of China and India, and called attention especially to the Himalayan Mountains, as containing the same varieties of climate as was found in the tea-districts of China. From the nature of the plants found in the Himalayas, Dr. Royle had long thought that the tea-plant could be cultivated there; and in 1827, and again in 1831, he recommended to the Indian government the desirability of making the attempt. In 1832 Dr. Wallich presented a paper to the Board of Control on the subject; and in 1834 Dr. Royle, in the third number of his *Illustrations of Himalayan Botany*, gave an essay on the cultivation of tea in the Himalayas, which coincided remarkably with a report sent from India at the same time by Dr. Falconer. With the sanction of the Court of Directors, he determined upon making the experiment; and in 1834 a committee was formed, reports called for, and Messrs. Gordon and Guizlaff were sent to China to obtain seeds, information, and workmen. After visiting the Anko Tea-hills, and obtaining seeds, these gentlemen were recalled on the discovery of the tea-plant of Assam. The seeds were sown at Calcutta, and the seedlings distributed to the tea-nurseries; but only 500 reached Assam alive: 1326 reached the hill-nurseries in 1836. In Dec. 1838 Dr. Falconer wrote that the tea-plant was thriving vigorously in two, and had flowered in three, of the above nurseries. In 1841, 5000 plants were flourishing; many of them bushy shrubs, about five feet high. In 1842, nine Chinese tea-manufacturers, who had been in Assam, were sent to the tea-nurseries in Kumaon and Gurhwal, who immediately recognised the plant under cultivation as the genuine Chinese, and of a superior quality to that grown in Assam. In 1843 the Chinamen prepared some tea from the above plants, which was considered, in Calcutta, to be marketable in London at about 2s. 6d. per pound. In 1843, sixteen canisters of black (Pouchong) tea were forwarded to London, and although somewhat damaged on the voyage, the tea was valued at from 2s. 6d. to 3s. per pound. The appearance and flavour of the best samples were unexceptionable, and fully justified the opinion that the tea-shrub in the Kumaon plantations is the genuine China plant. Dr. Royle read several letters and statements on the now flourishing state of the nurseries. They contained, at the time of the latest accounts, about 100,000 plants, and the court of directors had ordered that one-half of the produce should be sent to this country, in order that the quality may be clearly ascertained, and extensively made known. Dr. Falconer, who was present, then addressed the meeting, and gave his reasons for the opinions he had entertained respecting the fitness of the Himalayas for the cultivation of the tea-plant; and called especial attention to the eligibility of the Deyra Dhoon for the extended culture, there being in that district an abundance of cleared land at a moderate rent, cheap labour in the vicinity, great facilities

for irrigation, and easy access to the Ganges and Jumna rivers, by which the produce might be cheaply conveyed to Calcutta.

To the Editor of the Literary Gazette.

Belfast, May 1, 1844.

SIR,—The following notice may be interesting to some of your antiquarian readers; and as I think the circumstance is one of rare occurrence in Ireland, it may be worthy of being recorded.

Some months ago a parcel of Saxon silver coins (between 2 and 300) was found close to the old church of Derrykeaghan, near Dervock, in the northern part of this county. They consisted principally of Eadgar, king of all England, A.D. 959; a good many of Athelstan, chief monarch, A.D. 925, some with *TOT BRIT*; some of Eadred, A.D. 945; a few of Edwi, A.D. 955; and one of Eric, king of Northumbria, A.D. 946.

After being cleared of the black crust which covered them, they proved to be in excellent preservation. One of them, which I cannot make out, but which is in superior preservation, presents the letters *IDAREHNAREX*—the place of coinage uncertain, probably Dublin.

The coinage-marks on the others are various: York, Chester, Alnwick, Norwich, Ailesbury, Edmondsbury, Verulam, Carlisle: this last the mint-mark on the coin of Eric.

I was not aware until lately of the discovery of these coins, at which time they had been principally scattered; but from what I can learn, the foregoing report comprises the particulars. I have been informed that among them was one Roman coin; and a small bar of silver, such as was used by the Saxons as currency.—I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant,

T. H. BENN.

#### LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK:—

*Monday*.—Statistical, 8 P.M.; British Architects, 8 P.M.; United Service Institution, 9 P.M.; Chemical, 8 P.M.; Medical, 8 P.M.

*Tuesday*.—Civil Engineers, 8 P.M.; Pharmaceutical (anniversary meeting), 11 A.M.

*Wednesday*.—Society of Arts, 8 P.M.; Pharmaceutical, 9 P.M.; Ethnological, 8 P.M.

*Thursday*.—Royal, 8½ P.M.; Antiquaries, 8 P.M.; R. S. of Literature, 4 P.M.; Medico-Botanical, 8 P.M.; Numismatic, 7 P.M.; British and Foreign Institute, 8½ P.M.; Philological (anniversary meeting), 8 P.M.

*Friday*.—Royal Institution, 8½ P.M.; Philological, 8 P.M.

*Saturday*.—Royal Botanic, 4 P.M.

#### FINE ARTS.

##### ROYAL ACADEMY.

In our last we specified some of the most striking works in the East Room, exclusive of the portraiture, which occupies a considerable portion of it, in a manner very honourable to this branch of British art. Notwithstanding the occasional fits of ill-health which during the winter affected the President, we rejoiced to see no decline of his acknowledged talent on these walls. Of his six productions, No. 66 is an excellent likeness of the *Bishop of Llandaff*, and No. 72, of the *Dean, Bruce Knight*. 121, *Sir E. Ryan*, painted for Calcutta, is a good judicial work; and 133, a perfect memorial of *Sir F. Burdett*, as he looked in his later days. *Sir C. Farnaby* and the historian *Hallam* complete the set, in a style worthy of Sir Martin Shee.

Nor is his veteran contemporary, Thomas Phillips, less worthy of praise for his five contributions. The one we should prize most is, No. 61, a portrait of himself, and a pleasing, well-coloured resemblance. Of the other four, the best known to us is No. 181, a "staring"

likeness of *Dr. Saunders*, the head-master of the Charterhouse school.

Mr. Pickersgill, also belonging to this grade in the Royal Academy, ought to take his place here, with seven portraits in his best manner. No. 115, *A Lady*, is indeed superior to most of his female heads; and 186, the *Hon. Captain Gordon, R.N.*, a whole-length of that gentleman, the member for Aberdeenshire, and exceedingly like him; 285, *Maternal Affection*, is more of a composition, and displays a facility of handling and rich tone of colour alike creditable to the reputation of the artist.

Four portraits by the late Mr. Briggs are records of his talent, and teach us to mourn his loss. No. 57 is a work worthy of him; 182, a fine portrait of *Macready*; and 487, a living likeness of another distinguished public character, *Mr. Plumer Ward*.

Having thus briefly referred to the elder portrait-painters of high rank, we may glance at their successors, whose performances point them out as *nulli secundi*. Among these, Mr. Frank Grant takes a very prominent station, and this year he is alike prolific and excellent. No. 79, *Lord Forester*, and 110, *Mrs. Bower Smith*, are very ably painted; and 176, the *Marchioness of Waterford*, is admirable in every respect. 316, *Lady Prudhoe*, is but another proof of his taste and talent; and 544, *Lady Arthur Lennox*, another. He shews himself, indeed, *par excellence*, a lady's painter, for he gives them elegance without affectation, and natural charms without flattery; and the whole in a style of art of a high order. We have, nevertheless, reserved his No. 409 for our more particular commendation. It is the portrait of *A. Nasmyth, Esq.*, the eminent dentist, whose researches in science (the foundation of his great skill in practice) have frequently claimed our notice, and is a happy likeness of the individual. He looks as if he could charm the pangs of the toothache away by an encouraging smile; and the tone of colouring is as harmonious as the resemblance is faithful.

Treading in the same footsteps, and not far apart from Mr. Grant, we observe the works of a young and very rising artist, Mr. Swinton. No. 20, the beautiful *Marchioness of Douro*, by him, is inferior, in grace and other qualities of art, to no female portrait in the Exhibition. No. 191, *Viscountess Camden*, is another distinguished specimen of his pencil in this line; and 502, 682, and 709,—the latter, *Professor Wilson*,—only additional proofs of a capacity to achieve the highest purposes of portraiture. And we may here remark on the lowering estimate too loosely and too extensively put upon this branch of art. Forgetful of Velasquez, Rubens, Vandyke, Reynolds, and others possessed of its mastery, and heedlessly undervaluing the various excellences of art of which it is susceptible, including almost every one of them from the ideal to the mechanical, people are apt to speak as disparagingly of a "mere" portrait as if it neither required study, skill, nor genius; whereas it singularly requires them all, or is exactly worth nothing. The human affections cultivated in this manner may be put out of consideration; and treating of it simply as a question of art, we must come to the conclusion that it is capable of giving scope to efforts of the noblest description. Force, sweetness, design, colour, chiaro-scuro, aerial perspective, tone, harmony, verisimilitude, and perfection of touch in accessory accompaniments, are all not only agreeable, but absolutely necessary to distinction in this contemned department; and yet we will say, that he who can paint a really first-rate portrait, need hardly fear failure in

any other class to which he might devote himself.

Looking back to our catalogue, at the beginning of the figures we observe marked with approbation—

No. 8, *George Borrow, the Author of the Bible in Spain*. By H. W. Phillips.—A very clever portrait, by an artist who has several more laudable examples of his rising talent in the gallery. Of these, No. 26, *Two Children*, are sweetly and firmly done.

No. 9 is a small portrait of *Mr. W. H. Ainsworth*, the popular author, by MacIae: an expressive likeness, full of character, and reminding us of Harlow's exquisite pictures of a similar size and artistic feeling.

*Mrs. W. Carpenter* does honour to her sex and the arts by No. 19, *Dr. Hewell*—a little smears in the shadows, but very like; No. 56, *A Lady and Children*, most tastefully drawn and coloured; 83, *Mrs. Adams*, her *chef-d'œuvre*, if not contested by 288, *Mr. T. Chapman*, a picture which shews equal power in the masculine as there is grace in her feminine subjects.

Nos. 29, *Lord Ashburton*, 42, *Master Corbin*, 103, *The American Minister*, 291, *Miss Everett*, and 341, *King Louis Philippe*, display to advantage the merits of the American artist, Mr. Healy, whose portraits in former seasons have commanded our eulogium for their fidelity and ability. He is "progressing," as was to be expected from his *début*, and bids fair to be one of the chief ornaments of his country in the line of art he has professionally adopted.

J. P. Knight, R.A. elect, also shines forth with 30, a well-painted portrait of *Mrs. R. Hodgson*, No. 204, *Alderman Lucas*, and four others; of which No. 318, *Admiral Lord Colville*, appears to us to be the most favourable example of his skill, though all of them exhibit it in a strong degree.

Nos. 55, *Lord Bloomfield*, and 70, *Sir Henry Hurler*, though hung aloft, strike the eye as most praiseworthy portraits by Mr. J. Lilley, whose earlier performances gave promise of no less efficiency. In disposition and colour, the young artist need not fear comparison with his elders.

No. 37, *Portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Webster*, painted to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding, by T. Webster, A., ought, perhaps, to be taken out of this critique, and be mentioned as a thing of affection and filial piety, which must appeal to every heart. It is exquisitely done, replete with sentiment, a little gem alike of feeling and art. We have seldom seen so small a piece, and alone too, which has given us so high an opinion of its author.

In our portraiture-list we ought not to omit the name of Mr. J. Simpson, who has four able portraits this year. Mr. J. Ballantyne three, including *A Bacchante*, No. 338, of much merit, as well as his portraits of *A Child*, and 554, *Miss W. H. Michael*. Portrait of *Sir James Graham*, No. 117, by J. Lucas, and *The Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone*, 135; *The Reigning Duke of Saxe Coburg*, 346; *Count Mensdorff Pontilly*, 357; and *The Duchess of Kent*, 572,—all carefully and successfully portrayed in the artist's best style. Nos. 109, 139, and 183 reflect the talent of N. J. Crowley, and present us with the lineaments of Roman Catholic dignitaries, viz. *Mrs. Ackenhead*, the foundress of the Sisters of Charity in Ireland; *Dr. Murray*, the Archbishop of Dublin; and a private lady, *Mrs. O'Brien*.

Probably we have omitted some names we ought to have included in this article; but we can take them up in future notices, when treating of historical, poetical, landscape, and other productions. Meanwhile we cannot close without pointing at No. 140, *A Lady*; 232, *Rear-*



*Admiral Tait*; 271, *W. R. Ramsay, Esq.*; and 326, *Master H. Burn*, whole-lengths, &c., by J. Watson Gordon, A., and executed in a peculiar and uncommon style, which marks them as peculiar and uncommon *fac-similes* of the originals. [To be continued.]

Since the sale of Sir Simon Clarke's gallery, we have not had any so interesting to amateurs as that of the late Mr. Harman's collection, brought to the hammer yesterday and to-day at Messrs. Christie's. It contained many choice specimens of art, and especially of the Dutch and Flemish schools. A landscape by Hobbema was the jewel of the room; though there was a small Ostade of incomparable merit, as a display of the utmost of mechanical execution; a rich and sunny Cuypp; a Backhuysen, perfect of the master; one charming among several Vanderneers; some excellent Teniers; two Claudes, of his later time; Sir Joshua's *Age of Innocence*; and other pictures of rare art and beauty. On Monday this interesting auction is to be followed by that of the Etruscan vases, antique marbles, china, and other articles of *vertu*, which belonged to the same deceased gentleman, whose residence was so long admired as the receptacle of all that wealth and taste could procure to adorn a handsome English villa.

The Artists' Benevolent Fund, under the presidency of Lord Palmerston, had a capital anniversary on Saturday, and a subscription of about 550*l*. The noble chairman prefaced the toasts by eloquent speeches; and his own health was proposed in a very appropriate one by the Hon. Mr. Ridley Colburne. Mr. Frank Grant gave "the members of the House of Commons present," also with some just observations on the increasing interest felt for the fine arts; which was acknowledged by Sir John Easthope. Mr. Stanfield returned thanks for the Royal Academy; and Mr. Dickens, having his name coupled with the literature of the country, made an able and pointed, though judiciously brief, speech in reply. Mr. Solly spoke humorously on behalf of the institution; and on a complimentary toast being drunk to Art-Unions, Mr. G. Godwin stated to the company the extent of encouragement to artists afforded by these associations, and explained the measures and hopes in contemplation for their continuance and prosperity. The music by Broadhurst, Horncastle, Chapman, Young, Hutton, and the Misses Pyne, was deservedly much applauded.

The Coronation of Queen Victoria, by J. Martin, now exhibited in Mr. Atherstone's gallery, is well deserving of a visit. It represents the scene at the moment the aged Lord Rolle has stumbled on the steps to the throne as he was advancing to pay his homage; and though we cannot speak highly of the figures, we can truly say of the general distribution of the component parts of the picture, that they are very striking, and the effect of the whole Abbey, rich in architecture and gorgeous in pageantry, grand and imposing in the extreme.

The late Sir Robert Kerr Porter, engraved after Harlow's celebrated portrait of this distinguished and most amiable individual, and published by Mr. Domenick Colnaghi. The likeness is striking, and the engraving of high merit as a work of art. To the friends of Sir Robert it will be invaluable, and to portrait-collectors, necessary to complete their series of eminent men. Of this highly endowed family, Miss Jane Porter only survives, and is at present in London, venerated and loved by an extensive circle of friends.

*The Beauties of the Opera: La Giselle. Part I.* London, D. Bogue.

THE rage for Opera-portraiture and posture has grown universal, if we may put faith in the print-shop windows throughout town, from the fashionable thoroughfare to the low alley. In a former No. we hinted at the demoralising effects of these exhibitions; for the lascivious-looking pets of the ballet could not become objects of rude gaze and vulgar ribaldry without deteriorating the decent sense of the people. To our period, it may be remarked that this national quality of external modesty and decorum has distinguished us in a marked manner from the continent, and has been a trait almost peculiar to, and altogether characteristic of, our social habits. Now, however, we seem to be in a fair way to get rid of our shyness and reserve; of the *mauvaise honte* with which we have been charged by less scrupulous countries, where little shame of any sort, either bad or good, interferes with their looser pleasures or animal life.

In noticing the present publication, it is but fair to observe, that though it ministers to the excitement of the general taste in these matters, it does not do so by any grossness or impropriety. On the contrary, it is a graceful, pleasing, and picturesque work. A pretty, and, as it should be, a flattering portrait of Carlotta Grisi (with a brief memoir) in the *Giselle*, forms the frontispiece; and a description of the ballet is embellished with wood engravings on a small scale, representing the chief incidents and scenes. These are executed in a very clever and most agreeable style, as are also the fanciful borders round the text. We guess they are Parisian; and if so, we should only be sorry to compare with them the late publication of our Etching Club, which, with few exceptions, is truly a disgrace to the artists whose names it bears. Shadows as black as coal, rottenness where there should be crispness, and poverty of design throughout, have rendered us unwilling to notice this production; and we do so now in the hope that the notoriety of the failure may stimulate the able artists so disparaged to an exertion to redeem themselves and their school from the obloquy, and do something at least equal to *La Giselle*.

#### THE DRAMA.

*French Plays.*—Beaumarchais' comedy, *Le Mariage de Figaro*, was brought out here in great strength on Wednesday evening. The whole company were put in requisition, and a *grand coup* has been the result. The piece is known to all, and it therefore needs no detailing on our part. Volnys played the *Count Almaviva*, not perhaps with volubility equal to our comedian Jones, but yet very respectably. Of Mad. Pernot in the *Countess*, and the delightful Plessy in *Susanne*, it is merely necessary to say they were highly efficient. The pretty Mlle. Bachelet shewed more talent in *Fanchette*, the gardener's daughter, than she has hitherto had an opportunity to display. Cartigny was much too noisy for the *Figaro* we have been accustomed to; while Barqui, in *Don Guzman*, made a complete hit. Forgeot's *Page* was well too; and for a five-act comedy it was very successful. As a fit subject for a comic opera, it has met greater approbation than we should imagine it ever did as a dramatic piece; but as given here, high praise is due to all concerned.

Mr. C. Kemble's *Readings of Shakspeare* commenced on Monday evening, before an audience highly distinguished for rank and literature. The majority of the company were per-

sons of note in society, in the cultivation of the arts, and in the patronage of the drama. The room had a very elegant appearance. The play read was *Cymbeline*, certainly not one of the most impressive of the bard's creations, but still affording scope for the dissecting study and fine discrimination of the reader. Every line had its emphasis; every sentiment its expression. The only drawbacks were observable in the use of an eye-glass, occupying one hand, and, to a certain extent, occasionally intercepting the voice (we wished Mr. Kemble had worn a pair of our half-oval spectacles), and a difficulty in imitating the tenderness of the female voice in passages where the lovely Imogen speaks. In *King John*, forthcoming on Monday, there will be still more room for passion and effect. At the conclusion the applause was great for this refined entertainment.

*Madame Puzzi's Concert*, on Wednesday, was one of the most delightful of the season, and attended by a full and fashionable audience. Her own high character and merits well deserve such a testimony of public esteem; and the matchless performance on the horn by Signor Puzzi being alone a sufficient attraction for any musical entertainment. But there were besides, Mrs. A. Shaw, Grisi, Favanti, Dorus Gras, Madame Castellan, Persiani, and Staudigl: no surprise that the whole went off excellently well.

*Guard her as a treasure* is a simple domestic ballad, the words by Mr. J. E. Carpenter, and the first two verses superior in expression to the conclusion; but the whole is very natural in thought; and the music, by John Barnett, well calculated to make it a fireside favourite.

#### ORIGINAL POETRY.

##### LOVING AND FORGIVING.

Oh, loving and forgiving—  
Ye angel-words of earth,  
Years were not worth the living  
If ye too had not birth!  
Oh, loving and forbearing—  
How sweet your mission here;  
The grief that ye are sharing  
Hath blessings in its tear.  
Oh, stern and unforgiving—  
Ye evil words of life,  
That mock the means of living  
With never-ending strife.  
Oh, harsh and unrepenting—  
How would ye meet the grave,  
If Heaven, as unrelenting,  
Forbore not nor forgive!  
Oh, loving and forgiving—  
Sweet sisters of the soul,  
In whose celestial living  
The passions find control!  
Still breathe your influence o'er us  
When'er by passion crost,  
And, angel-like, restore us  
The paradise we lost.

CHARLES SWAIN.

#### VARIETIES.

*Jewish Movement.*—We have elsewhere (see review of *Coningsby*) adverted to the onward movement observable among the Hebrew people, dispersed all over the earth; as signs of which we notice on our table "The Voice of Israel, No. 1,"—a new periodical addressed to represent the interests of the Jews in England, France, Germany, and America, and declared to be "conducted by Jews who believe in Jesus of Nazareth as the Messiah." Also "Suggestions to the Jews for the improvement of their Charities, Education, and general Government," a pamphlet of 32 pages. It proposes a union of all existing funds, and the establishment of a system of central administration. "An address on the position of the Jews in Britain, by Moses Samuel," is another pamphlet of 27 pages, which

earnestly enforces union in religious matters, the cessation of dissensions, and the encouragement of learning, and publication of valuable mss. now alleged to be withheld. Then "Naboth the Jezreelite, and other poems," by Anne Flinders, pp. 102; a pretty Jewish drama, and other poetry of Israelite interest. Last of all, "A Visit to my Father-land," by R. H. Herschell, author of a "Brief Sketch of the Jews," pp. 258; notes of a tour in Syria and Palestine, and an attempt to reconcile Judaism with Christianity.

*Hydropathy* seems to be spreading and flourishing amongst us. We have had a great establishment for its practice described to us near Richmond; and another, "with an abundant supply of (the medicine) water," has lately been opened under the superintendence of a member of the Royal College of Physicians, in the Vale of Health, Hampstead. The latter, we are informed, is more devoted to the treatment of diseases connected with an unwholesome state of the blood.

*Westminster Bridge* appears, from parliamentary returns, to be a costly public edifice. From April 1810 to April 1838, its repairs, lighting, &c. amounted to 83,097l. 6s. 9d.,—including law-charges, only 1923l. 18s. 6d., and salaries and allowances (for what?) 12,787l. 12s. 7d. Since April 1838, the *total* of the whole expended and needed figures at 82,661l. and 40,000l. if the bridge and roads to it are widened.

#### LITERARY NOVELTIES.

In the press.—Pictorial Notices of Sir Anthony Van Dyck, and the Etchings executed by him, with some particulars relating to Rubens, Honthorst, and Daniel Mytens, &c.: collected from Documents by Her Majesty's State Paper-Office, &c. by W. H. Carpenter.

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Blair's Chronological and Historical Tables, from the Creation to the Present Time, with Additions and Corrections, by Sir H. Ellis, imp. 8vo, 1l. 11s. 6d.—Russia, by the Marquis de Custine, translated from the French, 3d edit. 3 vols. post 8vo, 1l. 11s. 6d.—The Religion of Ancient Britain, by G. Smith, F.R.S., 12mo, 7s.—Niebuhr's History of Rome, Vols. IV. and V., edited by L. Schmitz, 24s.—Rev. E. Miller's Sermons, preached principally at Bognor, 8vo, 10s.—Instructions in Household Matters, or the Young Girl's Guide to Domestic Service, fcp. 1s. 6d.—Gallus, or Roman Scenes, by Prof. Becker, translated by F. Metcalfe, post 8vo, 12s.—On Dysmenorrhœa, and other Uterine Affections, by Edward Rigby, M.D., 8vo, 6s.—The Gospel before the Age, by the Rev. B. Montgomery, 8vo, 10s.—Memoirs of a Muscovite, edited by Lady B. Lytton, 3 vols. post 8vo, 1l. 11s. 6d.—Biblical Cabinet, Vols. 44, 45, Tittmann's Commentary on the Gospel of St. John, 2 vols. 12mo, 15s.—Tales of a Lay-Brother, First Series, Neville Cross, 3 vols. p. 8vo, 1l. 11s. 6d.—Hyperion: a Romance, by Longfellow, 32mo, 2s.—Petronii and Davenport's Italian, French, and English Dictionary, square, 8s.—Family Prayers for a Fortnight, 18mo, 2s.—Night of Toil, 2d edit. 12mo, 5s.—Memoirs of David Smith, by J. Campbell, D.D., post 8vo, 10s. 6d.—Farming for Ladies; or, a Guide to the Poultry-Yard, the Dairy, and Piggyery, 12mo, 8s.—Anglican Cathedral Church of St. James, Mount Zion, Jerusalem, by J. W. Johns, 21s. plain; 1l. 11s. 6d. coloured.—Brettell's Hand-Book to the Isle of Wight, 3d edit. 12mo, 5s.

DENT'S TABLE FOR THE EQUATION OF TIME. [This table shews the time which a clock or watch should indicate when the sun is on the meridian.]

1844.	h. m. s.	1844.	h. m. s.
May 18 . . .	11 56 10.8	May 22 . . .	11 56 24.2
19 . . .	56 13.4	23 . . .	56 28.9
20 . . .	56 16.5	24 . . .	56 34.0
21 . . .	56 20.1		

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Unwilling to divide our reviews of Lord Mahon's History and Mr. Disraeli's Coningsby, several new publications lie over for another Number. Many communications received late must abide for our next Gazette.

Critique on the Water-Colour Exhibition will be continued on Saturday.

#### ADVERTISEMENTS.

##### MISCELLANEOUS

#### THE ONLY GREAT CHORAL MEETING

For this Season of the UPPER SINGING SCHOOLS, instructed on the METHOD OF WILLIAMS, as published under the sanction of the Committee of Privy Council on Education, will be held at EXETER HALL, on THURSDAY NEXT, May 2nd, 1844, at Eight o'clock, under the Direction of Mr. JOHN HULLAH.

The SEMI-CHORUS will consist of FIVE HUNDRED VOICES, and the CHORUS of ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED VOICES.

Tickets, for the Reserved Seats on Platform, price 10s. 6d.; Reserved Seats on Upper Platform, 7s.; Reserved Seats, Western Gallery, 5s.; Area, 3s.; to be had only of Mr. PARKER, Publisher, 115 West Strand, between the hours of Eleven and Five, daily.

#### GRAND CONCERT.—COMBINATION

of TALENT.—COVENT GARDEN THEATRE, MONDAY, May 20.—Madame Dorus Gras, Mr. Brahm, Herr Stauchig, Mr. Hamilton Brahm, Mr. Charles Brahm, the Secret Williams, Miss Allyn, H. Lindley, and a Band and Chorus consisting of 200 Performers. First Act, Sacred; Second and Third, Miscellaneous.

Boxes, 5s.; Pit, 2s. 6d.; Galleries, 1s. 6d. To be taken of Mr. Notter, Box Office, Covent Garden. Private Boxes, 5s. 3s. 2s. 1s. 11d. 6d., at the Libraries; the Theatre; and of Mr. Brahm, 5 Gloucester Road, Hyde Park Gardens.

Full particulars will be duly announced.

#### INTERESTING AND CLASSICAL EXCURSION.

A six weeks' Tour by steam to Athens, Smyrna, and Constantinople, calling at Gibraltar and Malta, with the option of visiting en route Vigo, Oporto, Lisbon, Cadiz, and Gibraltar.—The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Company's well-known splendid steam ship TAGUS, 500 tons and 500-horse power, will start from Blackwall on Thursday, June 20, for the above ports. Time occupied in the passage out and home about six weeks. Very superior accommodation for passengers.

For terms apply at the Company's Offices, 51 St. Mary Axe, London; and 57, High Street, Southampton; also at 23 Regent Circus.

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On policies of five years' standing, half the amount paid, after the first year's premium, may be borrowed thereon by the Assured.

Advances are also made to Assurers on real or undoubted personal security, for terms of years, repayable by instalments.

Attention is particularly requested to the detailed prospectuses of the Company, which may be obtained at the Office, 15 King William Street, City; or by letter addressed to the Secretary.

WILLIAM RATRAY, Actuary and Secretary.

##### New Prospectus.

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